

# THERAPEUTICS;

OR, THE

A R T

OF

HEALING.

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By THOMAS MARRYAT, M.D.

THE SEVENTH EDITION.



NULLIUS ADDICTUS JURARE IN VERBA MAGISTRI. Horat.

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# INTRODUCTION.



**W**HEN a treatise of a didactic nature is offered to the public, it is just, as well as requisite, to examine the author's title to assume a province with which the idea of an apology seems necessarily connected. If the said author should prove so unfortunate as to deviate from the orthodox path, and be hardy enough to oppose received opinions, though by uncomplaisant experiments and inflexible facts; his danger becomes truly alarming, and it is impossible for him to produce more than sufficient excuses for his heretical  
b contumacy.

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contumacy. Happily, in this enlightened age, no man is condemned without a due and good-natured attention to every circumstance that he may be able to plead in his own exculpation.

The author finds that he is under the disagreeable necessity of too frequently speaking of himself, an invidious and disgusting task, which he would gladly have declined, could it have been avoided with justice to his reader or to his work. What pretensions he may have to a hearing, he leaves to the candor of the public to determine.

He presumes that the result of an infinite variety of experiments, and a most extensive experience, cannot be an unacceptable tribute to mankind, in whose service he desires still to exert the utmost of his abilities: from the reception it has met with in other nations, he has had no reason to disavow that sentiment.

From his earliest years he felt a strong propensity to medical studies, and that avidity was in some measure indulged



by an education as liberal as he could wish for. He claims not the least merit from gratifying a disposition naturally studious, or for that indefatigable sedulity which was so amply compensated by the pleasure that attended it. With gratitude he acknowledges that he received from some eminent physicians long since dead, instructions *vivâ voce*, which have been of unspeakable utility to him.

When he first began business, he entertained a wonderful opinion of his own abilities, but soon met with a case which baffled all his efforts, and obliged him to call in an old physician, who was so kind as to set him right, and convinced him that there were many methods necessary to be taken in *practice* incompatible with the best formed *theory*. Conscious of this deficiency, he from that moment resolved to sacrifice two hours every day to the gratuitous assistance of all those who should apply to him: this determination, which he has invariably adhered to ever since, has at least given him an opportunity of seeing as great a variety of cases as any of his cotemporaries.

To preclude deception, as far as possible, with respect to the power of medicine ; he began with the administration of some drug of allowed efficacy, and carefully watched nature, and patiently marked her operations in the same cases in different subjects : proceeding afterwards to various combinations according to the effects which were generally observed to ensue. In this course of practice, with as much caution and attention as he was capable of, after numberless trials, he at length investigated most of the formulæ which he now submits to the public. Though an eye has been generally had to the *res angusta domi*, they may be easily rendered more slightly and more palatable for those who can afford it, without the least prejudice to their efficacy.

It is not to be expected that the same cause will always produce the same effect ; probability is perhaps as great a height as human science can reach. There is no smatterer in medicine who would not roundly assert that jalap will purge, that ipecacuanha will vomit, and that emetic tartar will do both ; yet the author has met with a person whom

jalap would not purge; more than one whom ipecacuanha would not vomit, and several cases in which the emetic tartar would do neither, though given to a drachm and more. The doctrine of idiosyncrasy is hitherto inexplicable.

The methods proposed in the following work have indeed proved successful in some thousands of cases, yet it is no where affirmed that they will *never* disappoint expectation. There are and ever will be innumerable instances in which the direction of a skilful physician cannot be dispensed with, who well knows on what *seemingly* trivial minutiae, inscrutable to the unscientific eye, the health and even the life of a patient depends. The alteration or addition of a single grain in a medicine is sometimes of the utmost consequence.

That our art is a conjectural one has been often thrown in our teeth, though one would think with but an indifferent grace, by those of the two other liberal professions; for it is by no means clear that all divines have been unani-

mous



mous in their belief of the same theological doctrines, and it has been whispered that some of the gentlemen of the long robe have actually differed in opinion: if then any *uncertainty* is to be met with in divinity and law, is it not rather unkind that physic should be reproached with it? Whatever slight variations there may be in the dogmas of men, our teachers have in all ages claimed our reverence, and the lawyers our admiration: nor have physicians been always treated with neglect, witness the honors conferred on Hippocrates by a whole city: the deification of Esculapius, and the immense fee bestowed on Sertinius: Erasistratus, the son of Aristotle's daughter, was complimented with the value of sixty thousand guineas on his recovering Antiochus the father of Ptolemy.

With respect to the *mode of operation* of medicines, it must be confessed that we are somewhat in the dark; the human body is too complicated a machine to be amenable to those laws which solids and fluids out of it may be subject to. Those who tread the high priori road are mighty apt to grow giddy and stumble. Nature is very often exceeding  
unmannerly

unmannerly to theories. A great and wise man, not many centuries ago, to account for the effects of cinnabar in epilepsies, gravely informs his reader, that the Archaeus is so attentive to the fine color of the fluids caused by said cinnabar, that he is no longer at leisure to play his mischievous pranks. Is the modern solution of the phenomena occasioned by mercury from its momentum less absurd, or many others which might be mentioned? Would it not be more ingenuous to acknowledge that such medicines do generally produce such effects, though we cannot satisfactorily account for the manner in which they act? Why may there not be medical as well as theological mysteries? A man much conversant in the practice of physic might recite many narratives of the operation of drugs which would hazard his credit.

Nevertheless their power, with submission to the author of Domestic Medicine, is by no means inconsiderable, and it seems as novel for physicians to inveigh against the use of drugs, as for a man of learning to decry erudition: he who has been an eye-witness to the almost instantaneous  
alterations

alterations made in the human body by many of them, one would scarcely expect to find so parsimonious in his acknowledgments of their power. When a person is ill, he naturally and justly looks for the restoration of his health from a physician, and the number of those who are disappointed is comparatively exceeding small.

That the dietetic regimen is of no small consequence must be allowed, as the above-mentioned author justly observes, but that said regimen should preclude the use of due medicaments, no reason can be assigned but that which is not fit to be given. With regard to the aliment that is most proper for persons who are indisposed, there is perhaps no point in which physicians so much and so widely differ.

This consideration induced the author of the ensuing sheets, to attempt, if possible, to arrive at some certainty, with respect to this intricate and momentous matter. He could conceive of no other way to do this, than by ocular demonstration of the changes made in the food, by its continuance in the stomach, and marking the time requisite for the

the



the production of those alterations. Providing himself therefore with a few pieces of tin, some of a globular, and others of a cylindrical form, fastened to a small iron wire, in which the substances used for ailment might be partly, and some wholly inclosed ; when he found that he could draw up his machinery from his own stomach, without any pain, he thought that he might make free with some carnivorous quadrupeds and birds, to assist him in his experiments ; as his little family manifested no disgust at his treatment, he hopes that they suffered no inconvenience from it. He was surprised to observe the difference between a piece of the same animal substance macerated in saliva, in a degree of heat equal to ninety-eight of Farenheit's thermometer, and that which had been continued in the stomach the same time.

Having made his deductions with as much care and circumspection as he was master of, he ventured to recommend the use of such food to his patients as appeared to him, from his experiments, to be most suitable, and has found his expectations happily answered. The result of all his

trials he has interspersed in the body of his work, as far as their utility has been confirmed by experience. He shall only add on this subject here, that contrary to the common notion, roast meat is easier digested than boiled, and that even the bones of chickens are sooner converted into an alimentary mucus, than *any* vegetable substance.

Experiments are undoubtedly the most eligible means, for the acquisition of sound and useful knowledge ; yet the most exquisite caution is necessary with regard to the inferential reasonings from them ; this the author cannot help noticing, from a consciousness that some deductions, which at one time seemed indisputably clear to him, he was convinced by future, and more accurate trials, were too hasty and insupportable.

It is a trite, but just observation, that those who are most dogmatical, are most apt to be erroneous. Self-importance has a mighty bad effect on the eyes, and wonderfully impairs their visual power. Of this he begs leave to deliver the following instance: in the year 1756, having made (in  
his

his own opinion) a momentous discovery, he gave it to the public with a most imperious and dictatorial air of self-consequence, under the title of Medical Aphorisms. The authors of the Monthly Review, piqued to see the public so cavalierly treated, applied a critical vesicatory with such propriety, as entirely to evacuate the peccant humour, and (beyond their own expectations) to effectuate a perfect cure. Would to Heaven, that every author, who falls under their castigatory pen, would make the same use that he did of the well-meant hints of those ingenious, and never enough to be applauded writers, instead of snarling at the rod, or impotently snapping at the kind hand that holds it. After this frank and voluntary confession, he hopes the reader will not question his veracity, when he assures him, that whatever disagreeable and painful necessity he may be under of relating things concerning himself, it is solely with this view, viz. that the method (however uncommon) which he sometimes proposes, of handling several crabbed disorders, may be thought not totally unworthy of attention, especially as it has succeeded in a great number of similar cases. What he delivers is founded on an extensive ex-



perience; for he should think that he treated his reader with great impropriety, were he to lay before him any method which had proved successful in a few instances only.

It may not be amiss to present the reader in this place with some of the above-mentioned Aphorisms, because the author laid no inconsiderable stress upon them in the course of his practice (for few men have spent more hours at the electrical wheel) because the doctrines they contain appeared to him as irrefragably true above thirty years ago; and because they have very lately been countenanced by the greatest modern Philosophers, and adopted by some learned and judicious Physicians.

1. Animals, as well as vegetables, are formed and sustained by that material agent of the Deity, an aetherial fluid, commonly, though improperly, called electrical fire.

2. The brain is its repository, and the nerves its conductors, into the cellular tunic of the muscles; it is, consequently,

consequently, the cause of voluntary and involuntary motion\*.

3. The flat particles of the crassamentum are the parts which attract this fire, and appear, from experiments, to be electrics per se. So true is the assertion in sacred writ, that *in the blood is the soul*.

4. The fermentation in the stomach, assisted by the succus pancreaticus, prevents the too great accumulation of the vital heat.

5. An acid gas, arising from a too rapid fermentation in the stomach, may produce various disorders by an expulsion of the vital heat, or by propelling it into irregular and unequal distributions†.

\* The heart of a salmon, if insulated, and a few sparks are drawn from it, will spontaneously perform its systole and diastole.

† Worms in the intestines, will, sometimes, occasion sensations (in adults) exactly similar to electrical shocks.

## 6. Health

6. Health depends on an equal distribution of a sufficient quantity of this nervous influence, with a proportionate elasticity of the muscular fibres.

7. Every disorder is caused by, or attended with a redundancy, deficiency, or unequal distribution of the nervous influence.

That electricity may be applied to good purpose, in several rebellious diseases, is a certain fact, though it must be owned, that the remedy is a precarious one. The author has been frequently disappointed, from its effects, in those cases in which it appeared most likely to succeed; such, for instance, as paralytic affections. It is most to be depended on in the almost instantaneous removal of painful disorders, and of those which originate from obstructions. He shall only observe, further, on this subject, that from no small number of experiments, he can safely affirm, that the most efficacious method of using it is, to insulate the patient, and to draw sparks from the affected part; and that,



that, when flocks are to be given, a stronger than one, from a thin eight ounce Leyden vial (if often repeated) is never necessary, or productive of good consequences.

During the residence of the author in London, there are many persons yet in being, who have not forgot that he was fortunate enough to succeed in no inconsiderable number of very extraordinary cases; nor has his good fortune in that respect hitherto deserted him. When, from accidents equally unexpected and unavoidable, in the year 1762, he left *that* his native city, he has since visited several different kingdoms, eagerly embracing every opportunity of increasing his medical knowledge, by forming an intimacy with many eminent Physicians, and by every other practicable means, still pursuing his invariable rule of assisting the poor, gratis, every day. The numbers which flocked to him, in some places, are scarcely credible (even some hundreds in a day) particularly in the Northern part of Ireland (where he continued some years) which is amazingly populous, and much more so than is generally imagined. He was exceedingly disgusted at the absurd credu-

1 lity

lity of the common sort of people *there*, and their prophane comparifons. They have even brought dying perfons to him, in creels (or baskets) and when he has affured them that they were in the agonies of death, they have carried them away murmuring, and fcrupled not to affert, that they knew he could cure them, if he would. Thefe ridiculous circumftances would not have been mentioned, were they not a prefumptive proof, that fome perfons had received remarkable benefit from him, to give rife to fuch furmifes.

Since his return to England, which was not till February, 1774, he has relieved fome thoufands in this town (Shrewfbury) yet, it is well known, that thofe who apply to him, do not commonly labour under fuch diforders as are removeable with the greateft facility.

He begs pardon of the reader for this curfory recital of a few facts, which he thinks himfelf encouraged to expect from the confideration of what he has fuppreffed. He pleads not the flighteft degree of merit from the per-

formed of that which appears to him a duty—a readiness to assist others; nor can he be instigated by that truly despicable quality, vanity; since he has no wish left to form for himself but euthanasia. The only reason why he has executed this painful task, is to intimate that there may be a possibility that the methods of cure which he recommends, have some claim to the consideration of those whose peculiar province it is to think of such things, though they may greatly and offensively deviate from the common track.

The medical reader will certainly meet with some things in the ensuing treatise which may excite his surprize, and perhaps his disgust: the author would only plead the privilege of an Englishman, *trial* before condemnation. There are many means which appear at first blush very unlikely to attain the end in view, yet are found to be perfectly adequate to the acquisition of said end. To cut a man's throat may seem an odd method of preserving his life, yet there are cases in which no other method can be taken.



The author was once in consultation with one of the most eminent physicians on the European continent ; the patient was a young gentleman, seemingly in the last stage of a consumption ; on proposing the vitriolic vomit, the Doctor hastily exclaimed that he would not survive the taking it a quarter of an hour ; he was then asked if he had ever ordered the blue vitriol ? he replied that he never did, nor had ever seen it administered ; *who* rejoined the author, may be the best judge of its effects ; he who never saw any of them, or he who has given it above twenty thousand times ? The Doctor was of too ingenuous a disposition to offer any further objection : the vomits were taken, and our patient was restored to perfect health.

If any one were to propose a more safe, certain, and expeditious method of profligating distempers, he should rejoice to see his own work superseded and dwindle into neglect. Let mankind be served, and it is immaterial from what hand the benefits flow. As a certain person said formerly, he wished that all the Lord's people were prophets ;

so

so the writer of this, wishes from the bottom of his heart, that all the human species could preserve themselves from pain and sickness, or at least knew how to get rid of every malady incident to them.

He would warmly recommend to his brethren, particularly to young physicians, the method he has so long practised, of setting apart two hours every day for the service of the poor; he can assure them from the experience of above thirty years, that the advantages resulting from it will amply compensate all fortuitous inconveniencies, and infinitely exceed their most sanguine expectations. The pleasure of doing good is the most elevated and refined of all pleasures, and the only enjoyment that can reconcile us to the sufferings and woes which are inseparably annexed to human life.

The author acknowledges that human nature, with all its faults and follies, is the object of his most tender affection. He who has been eye-witness to so many scenes of misery, must have a callous heart indeed, if it were not touched

by sympathy and melted with compassion. As Terence said, *A man myself, I feel for all mankind.* The inevitable evils of life are sufficiently numerous, and he must have a very weak head and a very bad heart who can wantonly increase the horrible aggregate. It is surprising that one can say or do any thing that he knows will give pain to another: but it is beyond measure astonishing that any one can divest himself of pity for those who partake of the same nature with himself. No excuse can be pleaded for want of compassion, or even for not alleviating the sufferings of others when in our power.

It is alledged by some that if it is a man's own fault, and that he may thank himself for his situation, he can deserve no pity: but this is a perversion of all reasoning, for surely no one seeks misery or distress, and if he falls into them it must be owing to want of knowledge or want of power: like idiots or infants he is therefore doubly the object of pity. If it is even owing to obstinacy and perverseness that a man becomes wretched, he doth not forfeit his claim to our compassion: vice and wickedness will certainly render him



him miserable ; but let us not see him *so* without heaving a sigh, and dropping a tear. If, as our teachers inform us, such a one, shall be tormented for ever, surely this is amply sufficient, and there can be nothing amiss in our endeavours to render his existence in this life as comfortable as possible. Let it not be forgot, that if you had received the same education, and had been placed precisely in the same circumstances, your conduct would have been exactly the same with that of the unhappy mortal whom you so unkindly neglect. Who made thee to differ, however humiliating, is by no means an impertinent question.

Some plead the ingratitude of men, as a reason why we should not assist our fellow creatures in distress : this indeed is a weed very apt to spring up in the human heart, and we must make our account to meet with it. He would not be esteemed over-wise who would take pet at his garden, and totally desert it, because it pours forth weeds spontaneously. Doth it not argue something of a mercenary disposition to expect constantly such a luxurious treat, as grateful returns for the favours we bestow ?

We

We make great allowances for the slips and failures in those respectable personages, ourselves : in honor to humanity, let us not be less favorable to others. A sufferer, let him be what he will, is an object of compassion. For my own part I freely own that I would make very considerable sacrifices to contribute to the welfare and happiness of the most wicked and worthless man that ever existed.----He is my brother, as the royal Jew said of Benhadad, and he that *loveth not his brother*, can neither *love the Deity*, nor be loved *by him* ; but is actually a *murderer* in the sight of that being who is kind to the *unjust* and to the *unthankful*, who has promised his forgiveness and favor to mankind on no other condition, than that of *being kind one to another, tender-hearted and forgiving one another*.

The above quotations may be hazarded without much fear of a discovery, as they are taken from a book which is scarce ever dipped into by any person in this polite age, though there is a sweet spirit of philanthropy breathing through it, which one would think might render the perusal of it tolerable.

As a few hygienical strictures may be expected to precede a work of this nature, I shall beg leave to lay before the reader the following observations on what the physicians call the non-naturals. The necessary rules for the preservation of health are intelligible to the meanest capacity, and may be comprised in a small compass. No one can be exculpated, therefore, who is ignorant of the means whereby so invaluable a blessing may be continued.

A dry *air* is extremely desirable and large rooms, or such at least as will admit of frequent ventilation from fresh currents of air. To sleep in a room that has no chimney in it is highly improper, and it is no wonder that persons who are guilty of such indiscretion are subject to the incubus.

With respect to *diet*, the calls of nature ought not to be disregarded; they are sufficiently audible, and it is at our peril that we resist their importunity. The bad effects of eating or drinking too much are easier to be removed than those which arise from inanition. Nature has made no  
provision



provision against the consequences of starving ourselves. An acrimony of the fluids proceeds from frequent fasting, that is scarcely conquerable by the power of medicine. To those who look on fasting as a religious duty I have nothing to say; but as flagellation is also considered in the same light, to bare the back, and receive a few hasty lashes would be certainly the most eligible alternative.

To adopt the plan of Lewis Cornaro in this northern climate would be the height of folly. Dr. Cheyne with his vegetable regimen, has been the cause of infinite mischief to valetudinarians. As refusing to eat when we are hungry, and to drink when we are thirsty is prejudicial to health; in like manner to continue eating for the sake of pleasing one's appetite, or drinking when we feel no inclination to it, must undoubtedly affect our health: those who are so wise as to make their meals always of one dish, will scarce ever offend in the first point, and none but incorrigible fots will be guilty of the latter. To rise with an appetite, though a very frugal and common maxim, is an exceeding bad one.

He who obeys the dictates of nature, that is, his own internal feelings, will not err, but eat 'till he finds himself satisfied, for there is no other method of ascertaining the *quantity* necessary to be taken. As to the *quality* of diet, it is of little importance to persons in health, though animal food is incontestibly preferable, and to which the vegetable ought to be greatly disproportionate : for the diseases which arise from the use of the latter, are by far the most crabbed and refractory.

The same consideration holds good with respect to *sleep*, which in *young* and *old* persons ought to be indulged, but never to be solicited by lying in bed late. To arise early in the morning (as by all allowed) is greatly conducive to health.

Exercise is so absolutely necessary, that it is impossible to continue long free from disorders without it : nine tenths of those which are incident to human beings originate from indolence. The price of health is activity, and the slothful are unequal to the purchase.

*Costiveness* of the body, though sometimes for a surprising length of time not inconsistent with a perfect state of health, yet should not be connived at: the intestinal canal ought to be kept open by a laxative diet or other means, for one motion in twenty-four hours is a desirable circumstance, and well worth our endeavouring to procure. As to the rest of the excretions, nature is the best guide for the management of them; if they abound in quantity, the stimulus felt will be a sufficient warning for the necessity of evacuation. As phlebotomy is so fashionable, it may not be safe to say any thing against it: but *why* the quantity of blood should be diminished when no plethora exists, seems beyond the power of human conception. It is a melancholy truth, that the author has met with more disorders which were occasioned by imprudent bleedings, than from all other causes whatever. To assign a reason why the northern nations were formerly so extremely populous has puzzled many: that affair may perhaps no longer continue mysterious, when it is considered that they were strangers to the use of the lancet.

Lastly,



Lastly, the proper regulations of the *passions* of the mind is of the utmost consequence towards the establishment and continuance of health. He who would enjoy perfect health and long life, should cultivate a perpetual chearfulness, and maintain a fixed resolution to be pleased with whatever may befall him : this satisfaction and content is within the reach of every one. But he who is constantly repining and fretting for the possession of some visionary bliss, or toiling in the ceaseless pursuit of that which he thinks he has a right to expect the possession of, must not wonder if his health should be impaired by the delusive chase. Persons who indulge this wayward disposition, easily irritable, and attentive only to that which seems faulty and disagreeable in others ; if every thing they could wish for were at their command, would make shift to be as peevish and uneasy as if they had real cause for discontent. Subordination is indispensable, and the foot may as well refuse to perform its functions, because it is not the head, as a man become dissatisfied with his station. Every one has an undoubted right to meliorate his condition if he can, but such attempts are

by no means inconsistent with the indulgence of continual good humour, with suffering the mind to dwell only on pleasing images, and with acquiescence under disappointment. Nature has indented with us for nothing but food and raiment, and some time ago a wife and good man had learned to be quite content with *them*.

Let me add, as another means, the manifestation of a profusion of tenderness to all the animal creation : this softens the mind, and endues it with an aptitude for the reception of pleasurable sensations, and of the finest feelings of the human heart. It is in the power of every one to exert his efforts to contribute to the pleasure and felicity of all with whom he is connected, even in the minutest incidents. Seek by all possible means the happiness of others, and you will find your own in the way. In a word, health is to be secured by being *active* and *virtuous*.

Let the same procedure be recommended to our fair country-women, with this additional argument, that to be  
*good*

*good* is to be handsome as well as healthy ; nothing improves the beauty like chearfulness, good-nature, and a desire of pleasing : health, virtue and beauty are too strongly attached to each other to be separated for any length of time ; they are the fondest friends, and like other friends, by their amicable collisions mutually improve each other. Health adorns the countenance with attractive sweetness, virtue animates every feature, beauty gives them the highest finishing, and all unite in filling the eyes with enchanting and irresistible charms.

I cannot take leave of my reader without acknowledging the numerous imperfections of this work with respect to method, manner, diction, and the unavoidable consequences of an invariable adherence to brevity and conciseness. In a work of this sort, it would be rather unreasonable to expect the prettiness of points, the quaintness of antitheses, the florid tumescence of declamation, or the rotundity of elaborate periods. *Ornari res ipsa negat.* The author can only plead in excuse that he wrote his treatise originally in  
Latin,



Latin, that some allowances may be made for the long disuse of his vernacular language\*, and that he has endeavoured to the utmost of his abilities to convey his ideas with perspicuity and precision.

When this book was first published in Dublin, in 1764 (for the second edition printed in that city was not by subscription) he had the honor to find among his subscribers twenty-six noblemen, eight right honourable privy counsellors, an archbishop, five bishops, and besides most of the physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries, above two hundred gentlemen of the first rank and property in that kingdom.

If there is a single passage in the following sheets that has the least tendency to mislead the reader, or contribute to the detriment of any one, he would be the first to wish that every copy was committed to the flames : nor could he for-

\* He was near eleven years in foreign countries.

give himself if he had advanced any thing on the credit of others without owning his own ignorance of the facts. The methods of cure which he recommends are such as have received the sanction of a very extensive and frequent experience ; not only of his own but a great number of practitioners who have pursued the same methods, and of the success of which they have given him the most favorable and pleasing accounts. To experience alone he appeals for their rejection or adoption.

After all, if he has really been so unfortunate as to have made no valuable discoveries, to have started no hint which some happier genius may improve, to have added nothing of consequence to the medical treasury ; to be of no future service to mankind by this publication, he must confess that he shall be exceedingly disappointed ; will take shame to himself, and desire to sink into obscurity and deserved contempt. To be caressed by the great, esteemed by men of learning, and universally beloved by the poor ;

all these may arise from fond partiality, or adscititious prejudice; but where there is no intrinsic merit, are absolutely incapable of rescuing insignificance from oblivion.

## PREFACE



P R E F A C E

T O T H E

F I F T H E D I T I O N,

O C T A V O.

**F**ROM the frequent and repeated solicitations of his friends in Birmingham to comprise the ensuing work in a pocket volume, the author has been induced to present the public with a treatise, which has been hitherto sold for a guinea, at the price of five shillings; nor can he think any compliment he is capable of paying to *this* town,

f sufficiently

sufficiently expressive of that grateful sensibility with which his heart is penetrated for their very extraordinary and indulgent partiality towards him. He hopes the exultation is no ways culpable, that springs from his heart-felt satisfaction, that none have had any reason to repent of the confidence reposed in him.

He has not the least intention of attempting to vindicate any thing in this work. Whatever is indefensible he would be the first to execrate; but it may, with safety, be asserted, that the practitioner, who makes use of the methods recommended, must be extremely unfortunate, who should be always unsuccessful.

The prescriptions were, in the last edition, first printed in English, because one Mr. Dodd, whom the author never had the honour of seeing, was pleased to publish  
a trans-

a translation of *those* in the second edition, at Cork, in the year 1770, and again in London, in 1774. This gentleman (like Molly, who could not get a tune out of her master's fiddle, though she was sure there was one in it) had indeed possessed himself of mine, but was in dismal want of a finger to play on it. Peace to his remarks, reflexions, and manes.

This work was not noticed by the Monthly Review, till the publication of the fourth edition. See the MONTHLY REVIEW, for April, 1775.

That the medicines prescribed are some of the *keenest edge tools of physic*, must be acknowledged; for, perhaps, busy minds might entertain some suspicions of the sagacity or dexterity, of that workman, who should prefer the use of *blunt ones*; and, if the old adage is true, such a one stands the worst chance of cutting his fingers.



The dry vomit cannot deserve the unkind terms of *rugged* and *furly*; for the only *teazing* or *vexatious* circumstance I have ever known to attend it, is, that it sometimes would not vomit at all; and, in cases where that effect has been necessary, I have been obliged to double the dose, even in delicate habits, before it could be procured; though, strange as it may seem, the same quantity of either of the ingredients *alone* would have puked pretty smartly.

The author confesses his temper is naturally sanguine, and that he may sometimes have expressed himself in terms rather too strong; but, when it is considered that he relates nothing, which his eyes have not seen, some allowances should be made for said strength of expression. He would esteem that person as his best and dearest friend, who points out his faults. Whether he is right, or wrong, in his speculative notions appears to him a matter of equal moment with, whether a goose stands on her right or left leg.

But, whether mankind are misled in things relating to their health, is an affair of the last importance, and he would rather perish than offer any thing to the public, which could be the least deceptive on this head.

He thought himself the first person who ever gave vomits in internal haemorrhages, till a gentleman, about ten years after the first publication of his treatise, dispelled his vanity by putting into his hands a book, wrote by old Dr. Robinson, above forty years ago, wherein are related a vast number of cases, in which *he* succeeded by vomits *only*.

It may not be amiss, in this place, to make some remarks on that *prima facie* absurd prescription, under the article Dysentery, of paper boiled in milk. When it was first communicated to me, by an ancient Physician, on the continent, it afforded no small employment to my zygomatic  
and

and buccinator muscles. The good-natured old gentleman, without taking any offence at my mirth, only observed, that I might, in the course of practice, meet with some things seemingly as ridiculous, which would prove of no small efficacy. Many years passed without the least thoughts of it, till being called to a gentleman's son, about nine years of age, previously attended by four Physicians, who could be of little service, because the child obstinately refused to take any medicines. Ashamed to mention the paper dose to my brethren, I asked the mother, if her son was fond of milk; she replied in the affirmative; the paper was boiled in it; and, when I visited him the next morning, he was perfectly recovered. At that time I felt a similar sensation with honest Tristram, when he reflected on his behaviour to the poor monk. Some time after, a lady, who had been seized with the most dreadful dysentery I ever saw, in a quarter of an hour after taking the boiled paper,



paper, was well. There is certainly nothing so common as to impute effects to causes, by no means adequate to the production of said effects. Of this error the author has been particularly cautious, even to a refined scrupulosity ; but, where the effect has *caeteris paribus*, invariably followed, he thought himself intitled, for the future, to expect it.

The large doses of volatiles and narcotics to be met with in these pages, may startle the reader. It is to be feared they are often trifled with by an inexcusable timidity. It is a certain fact, that small doses, at different times, have often no good effect, and that the opportunity of saving our patient, which a large dose, at first, might have effected, is irretrievably lost. An extensive experience has convinced me, that many lives are to be preserved by an happy temerity.

With

With respect to the colic, or any other painful disorder, the best method of using electricity, I know of, is, first to draw a few sparks from the affected place, and then to throw the pained part into the electrical circuit; and, immediately after, to give another shock, at right angles, to the former.

The author did not chuse to adopt any systematical or regular arrangement of diseases: but those of which great multitudes have come under his care, are all treated in the subsequent manner.

A *definition* of every disease is first given, sometimes indeed not very accurate, but popular and intelligible; for his chief aim was to express himself with as much plainness and perspicuity as the nature of things would admit of.

The

The various *causes*, by which it may be occasioned, follow. The reader will here meet with many latent and unsuspected ones, and some that were never observed before, yet well worth his serious and careful attention.

All the *diagnosics* are subjoined, and pathognomonic symptoms, without which it cannot exist (to preclude all possibility of a mistake) to give him a competent knowledge of the difference of distempers, and enable him to treat them with certainty and precision.

The invariable *prognostics* are added, to satisfy a natural curiosity which prompts us to enquire whether it will terminate in health, another disease, or death: nor is the least regard paid to any authors, unless we have seen their assertions confirmed by a series of instances and irrefragable experience.



The *cure* is the next and most important point that comes under consideration, including the regulation of the non-naturals, particularly the dietetic regimen. According to the plan laid down, it is impossible to err in this case, or to be at a loss in knowing whether evacuations are necessary, and which are the most eligible. For instance, if there is too great a quantity of vital heat accumulated, and that accumulation be universal, a vein must be opened: but if it exceeds not in quantity, or the accumulation be only partial, as in hectic, slow fevers, &c. nothing can exculpate the practitioner for proposing that operation.

Lastly, a variety of *prescriptions* are given, adapted to the various circumstances of the case, and *such* only as have *often* proved successful. To those which are new discoveries (it is to be hoped, neither useless or unimportant) is affixed this mark . The same index is placed to every recipe

recipe that had always an extraordinary effect in a vast number of similar cases, and to such as never *once* disappointed my expectations.

My attachment (perhaps too violent) to formulæ I readily confess, partly owing to the necessity of writing some scores over night, without which precaution it would have been impossible to assist the numbers who applied to me in several places where I have been.

In what manner they were acquired is of little concernment to the reader; some were discovered by accident, others originate from hints received from old physicians, though by far the greatest part are the result of severe study; the utility of which has been confirmed by long extensive and painful experience. Such as they are, mankind are welcome to them, as I have no other object in view but  
their

their benefit. He who can conceal that which would be of advantage to millions for the emolument of a paltry individual, is a despicable wretch, that deserves very ill of society. Si quid novisti rectius istis ; Candidus imperti, si non his, utere mecum. HOR.

THERAPEU-



# THERAPEUTICS:

OR, THE

## ART of HEALING.

*Of FEVERS in General.*

A FEVER exists when the motion of the blood is preternaturally accelerated, which increased motion seems to be caused by an effort of nature to expel something out of the body which ought not to be retained within it; but this effect becomes a primary disease from the incapacity of nature to remove it.

By nature is meant that power by which those functions are performed, which are intirely independent on our own direction or consent; such, for instance, as the pulsation of

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the heart and arteries, the secretions, &c. Spontaneous actions, or those which are chiefly so, being objects of eligibility, are therefore by physicians termed *non-naturals*.

The proximate *cause* of fevers is irritation (which may occasion a spasmodic affection of the whole nervous system) commonly owing to an obstruction of insensible perspiration: when the particles of this matter are thrown back into the circulation, they may stagnate in, and plug up the extremities of the capillary arteries, or bring on spasmodic contractions of them.

An irritation may also be owing to other causes, as acrid food or liquors, affections of the mind, hunger, the absorption of pus, any thing acrimonious coming into contact with the extremity of a nerve, intense study, agrypnia, profuse venery; propulsion of the blood, into the lymphatics, which is then called an inflammation.

The *diagnostics*. Parching heat, intolerable thirst, high-coloured urine, without sediment; velocity, hardness and fulness of the pulse, pain in the head, side, back, or loins; a dry furred tongue, anxiety about the præcordia, difficult respiration, coma vigil and aversion from food.

Fevers generally begin with a previous sensation of chilliness, shivering, or intense cold ; less or more, longer or shorter, external or internal, according to the variety of subjects, causes, or fevers themselves.

*The prognostics.* Every fever terminates in *health, another disease, or death.*

In *health*, when the morbid matter is subjugated by the fever, loosened, rendered movable, and at length expelled by insensible perspiration, sweat, saliva, vomiting, urine, or diarrhoea ; a crisis usually coming on within fourteen days.

In *another disease*, when the vessels are injured by too violent an exagitation ; the more fluid parts dissipated, the rest incrassated, and the critical matter deposited in vessels which are obstructed, dilated, or ruptured : hence arise pustules, red spots, erysipelas, phlegmons, buboes, schirri, exanthemata, abscesses, gangrenes, and mortifications.

In *death*, when the increased accumulation of the vital heat overcomes the elasticity of the muscular fibre, and retains the heart in its diastole ; or when the fluids are destroyed by the force of the solids : hence arise inflammations, suppurations, gangrenes in the vital viscera, and



aphtous ulcers in the primæ viæ, which last, though seldom noticed or suspected, appear from dissections to be a common cause of death.

The *curative indications*. These direct to the correction and expulsion of the acrid irritating matter, with unremitted attention to the *vis vitæ*, that it may not be too much diminished; while the motion of the blood must be restrained within due bounds, and the redundance of heat expelled.

As to *regimen*, fresh air is absolutely necessary, which may be admitted by the door or windows, as often and as long as may be thought convenient: vinegar should be frequently thrown on a red hot iron in the room: nor would it be a trifling melioration of the air to set pots near the bed with some of the aromatic plants growing in them, such as lavender, rue, rosemary, or mint, but by no means to suffer any herbs which are not in a state of vegetation to continue in the same room with the patient, nor to continue in the room after sun-set. Clean linen refreshes and may safely be allowed every day, or every other day at farthest. Let him not be confined wholly to his bed, but sit up every day, as long as he can without fatigue.

He

He should be plied plentifully with diluting liquids, for it is impossible that he should drink too much: what the fluid is, is not very material, provided it be taken in immense quantities; even cold water, if required, may be drank with safety and advantage. The subsequent diluents are exceeding suitable, viz. barley water, with forty drops of dulcified spirit of nitre in every pint, decoction of hartshorn, cyder whey, tea prepared from balm, sage, mint, pennyroyal, or mother of thyme. A lemon squeezed into a pint of water, and sweetened to the taste with treacle, is of considerable utility. Three spoonfuls of vinegar in a pint of water, sweetened with honey, is another very proper ptisan, as is also vinegar whey.

When nature verges towards a secretion, diaphoretics, or at least a warmer regimen becomes necessary to help on coction and a crisis: depuration is the work of nature: if she is languid, assist her with cardiacs, aromatics, and volatiles; then blisters are highly proper (especially to the corpulent) to quicken the circulation, dissolve the viscid and too bulky sanguineous corpuscles, and to forward secretion through the miliar glands.

When

When the fever is subjugated, let the patient take that which affords the smallest employment for the chylopoietic organs, with antiputrescents, salts and acids : Whatever food is allowed should be given in small quantities and often repeated ; spoon-meats, broth, panada, bread pudding, and such like. It is a fortunate circumstance that persons, while a fever continues, seldom feel any inclination to eat ; for the chyle cannot then be properly elaborated. After the ravages of a fever, and to remove that distressing languor which arises from too profuse evacuations, nothing is so proper as strong broths drank as frequently and as copiously as the stomach will bear. I have often enjoined the use of them, though the pulse continued quick and ticking, while flushings and partial heat remained, and the patients were thought to be at the last gasp, with amazing success.

If a vehement craving is manifested of *something particular* to eat, and it be often requested---let it be what it will, it ought not to be refused : in the decline of fevers, there seems to be something in these untoward hankerings of nature analogous to the pica in chlorotics, whose eager desire of chalk and tobacco-pipes is by no means, as some suppose,



suppose, the cause of their disorder, but the predominant acid in their stomach (the primary disorder) which naturally instigates them to feed on such things.

The *cure*. If the strength of the patient will bear it, use venæ-section.

Cooling clysters may be administered with great propriety, as,

Take of Pure nitre two drachms,  
Honey of roses one ounce,  
Sweet whey seven ounces,

Make it a clyster. It will be found no inconsiderable auxiliary (especially for children) to bathe the feet and legs with warm water two or three times a day.

The following mixture may be drank at pleasure.

Take of Pure nitre half an ounce,  
Juice of lemons seven ounces,  
Cochineal two drachms,  
Water a gallon,  
Sugar as much as you please,

Let it be made a mixture.

On

On the first appearance of a fever the subsequent bolus will generally answer and remove it in a few hours.

Take of Pure nitre,

Camphire of each a scruple,

Conserve of wormwood half a drachm,

Make it a bolus to be taken at night, and if necessary, to be repeated the next morning, the patient being confined to his bed 'till the sweat goes off.

Any fever may be soon extinguished by the use of the following powders,

Take of emetic tartar five grains,

White sugar (or Nitre) a drachm,

Let them be well rubbed in a glass mortar, and be divided into six powders : one to be taken every three hours, notwithstanding the nausea, the first may possibly occasion. If they bring on a diarrhoea, they should be still continued, and it will soon cease spontaneously.

If these are taken (which is most commonly the case) without any manifest inconvenience, let there be seven grains in the next six powders; and in the next, ten. Here I beg

leave to retract what I said in the former editions of this work, viz. that till sickness and vomiting was excited, this noble medicine was not to be depended on.---For I have since seen many instances wherein a paper has been given every three hours (of which there have been ten grains in six powders) without the least sensible operation, either by sickness, stool, urine, or sweat, and though the patients had been unremittedly delirious for more than a week, with subfultus tendinum and all the appearances of hastening death, they have perfectly recovered without any other medicinal aid, a clyster every other day excepted. I have lately seen a great many cases similar to the above, and the emetic tartar has invariably produced the same effect.

As many regular graduates have not scrupled to order the use of Dr. James's powder, if there is any other empirical medicine less dangerous and more efficacious, it cannot surely favor of impropriety to mention it: that this is really the case, I dare confidently assert, and that Dr. Norris's Drops are by far the best antimonial ever invented, having this peculiar property of answering every end of an antimonial, without producing a nausea, and given in larger



doses than the inventor recommends, seldom, if ever, fail of extinguishing fevers, pessimi moris, and in their last stages, viz. one large spoonful every hour. The same quantity every three hours, in general, is sufficient to answer the most sanguine expectation.

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## A R D E N T F E V E R.

**A**N ardent fever is attended with a preter-natural and universal heat: if it is continual and terminates in twenty-four hours, it is called Ephemera; if it should last longer, it is termed Caufus or Synochus. The putrid Synochus or malignant fever has for its concomitants a burning heat, vehement thirst, aversion from food, intolerable anxiety, a dry furred tongue, unnatural respiration, restless nights, and a crude, thick, or red urine without sediment.

The *cause*, as has been already remarked, is irritation. If that which ought to be expelled from the body is retained within it, a consequential putrefaction ensues, from whence the putrid synochus and other putrid diseases.

The

The *diagnostics*, or pathognomonic symptoms are intolerable thirst, prodigious heat over the whole body, the tongue dry, rough, yellow, or black : coarctation of the lungs, consequently difficult and laborious respiration, quickness and hardness of the pulse ; pain in the head, flame-coloured urine, costiveness, anxiety about the præcordia, agrypnia.

The *prognostics*. It is most commonly mortal on the third or fourth day, or resolved by an hæmorrhage.

The face red and clammy ; the urine thin, small in quantity, black, or bloody ; a parotis not suppurating, spasmodic constrictions of the bronchia, all forebode great danger.

But if the patient snatches, fumbles with his fingers, gathers up the bed-clothes, seems to pick straws, drops involuntary tears ; if purple or livid spots appear, if the hypochondres are inflated, the extremities cold, with catchings of the breath, insensibility, cold sweats, hiccoughs, rattling in the throat.—Any of these are deleterious symptoms, and most of them generally quick forerunners of the last catastrophe.

*The cure.* Assist nature in her efforts to expel the mor-  
bific matter in the same method whereby she attempts to do  
it, whether by hæmorrhage, vomiting, sweat, or urine.——  
Give great quantities of diluting liquids. Draw off blood  
from *a large orifice* as soon as possible, and repeat the ope-  
ration according to the indication of symptoms, though after  
the third day phlebotomy cannot be used with propriety.

If the vital strength has been indiscreetly reduced by too  
frequent venæsections; on recovery, give cardiacs, vola-  
tiles, and strong broths.

When the fever remits, give the peruvian bark. The  
medicines which have been found successful in the cure of  
ardent fevers are to be met with below: either of which  
formulæ may be adopted according to the discretion of the  
practitioner, or the emetic tartar powders recommended  
under the foregoing article.

Take of Pure nitre two drachms,

Compound powder, of contrayerva,

Calx of antimony, of each one drachm.

Make



Make it into six powders. One to be taken every three (or two) hours. Or,

Take of salt of wormwood,

Pure nitre, of each a scruple,

Pure water, an ounce,

Nutmeg water,

Juice of lemons of each two drachms.

A draught, to be taken every third hour. Or,

Take of Diuretic salt half a drachm,

Pure nitre fifteen grains,

Pure water an ounce and half,

Nutmeg water two drachms,

Volatile aromatic spirit twenty-five drops,

A draught to be repeated every three hours. Or,

Take of Calx of antimony,

Cordial confection, of each a scruple,

Camphire ten grains,

Syrup of orange peel enough to make it a bolus,  
to be swallowed every eighth or sixth hour.

The use of *cardiacs* is not to be dispensed with even in disorders arising from a plethora; for if nature is not kindly supported,

supported, she cannot free herself from such disorders ; add to which, the languor arising from necessary evacuations, is sometimes fatal for want of proper strengtheners and nutritious restoratives.

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### I N T E R M I T T I N G   F E V E R.

**A**N Intermitting Fever (or Ague) is one that returns after the patient is wholly free from it for one, two, or more days, with fresh and increased exacerbation.

*The causes.* A viscosity of the arterial fluid, occasioning a quicker and stronger contraction of the heart ; an obstruction, or unequal distribution of the vital heat ; a predominant acid in the primæ viæ ; so that the cause seems rather to originate in the nervous influence, for the bark will profligate this disorder, and the same drug is equally efficacious in the removal of hysteric passions.

*The diagnostics.* An oscitancy, sensation of lassitude, rigour, quaking, paleness of the extremities, difficult respiration, anxiety about the præcordia, nausea, vomiting,  
 pain

pain in the back, loins, and limbs, the pulse quick and small, the urine thin and crude, then follow heat, flushings, redness, strong pulse, intense thirst, violent pain in the head, and the urine red as in a continual fever; afterwards the patient falls into a profuse sweat, the symptoms remit, the urine grows thick, with a sediment like brick-dust; sleep and debility succeed.

The *prognostics*. Sometimes it changes its type, and is converted to a dangerous continual fever, but this is peculiar to plethoric habits. Sometimes it terminates (in cachectic habits, or if not treated scientifically) in a dropsy, jaundice, phthisis, or schirrous tumours of the abdomen; though these disorders may with more propriety be imputed to *bleeding*, than be numbered among the natural consequences of intermittents. If properly managed, it is to be subjugated with great facility.

The *cure*. If plethoric, which is very rarely the case, bleed. If there is much nausea, furriness of the tongue, a bitter taste in the mouth, or frequent retchings, give a puke immediately. The following repeated every morning, will be *alone* sufficient to remove any intermittent.

Take



Take of blue vitriol,

Emetic tartar, of each eight grains.

Make it into three powders. Let one be taken early in the morning, fasting, in a large spoon about half full of water : let the patient strain, but drink nothing with it till he ejects some yellow or porraceous matter ; if his sickness doth not then go off of itself, half a glass of brandy should be taken ; if that should come up immediately, the repetition of it will settle his stomach, and he may then go about his usual business.

If this method should be objected to, the bark may be administered as follows, with certainty of success :

Take of Peruvian bark, two scruples,

Crude salt ammoniac, five grains,

Syrup of orange peel, as much as will make it into a bolus,

To be taken every third hour, during the absence of the paroxysm, washing it down with a glass of port wine, or (which is a very elegant method of dispensing it).

Take of the Bark, one ounce,

Extract of liquorice, two drachms,

Oil

Oil of saffrafras, one drachm,  
Mucilage of gum arabic, as much as will make it into an  
electuary;

The size of a walnut to be taken three or four times a day,  
during the apyrexia.

If the patient suffers under great debility, a chalybeate  
ought to be joined with the bark, as,

Take of Bark an ounce,  
Green vitriol, a drachm and half,  
Mucilage of gum arabic, enough to make it an electuary.

Dose, the quantity of a nutmeg, three or four times a day,  
in the time of intermission.

Should the bark be importunately objected to, either of  
the following formulæ will be found to answer expectation:  
the first is most proper for them whose hot fits are the  
longest.

Take of Salt of wormwood, two drachms,  
Pure water, seven ounces,  
Strong cinnamon water, an ounce and half,  
Volatile spirit of sal ammoniac, half an ounce,  
Balsamic syrup, half an ounce.

D

Of

Of this mixture, let three large spoonfuls be taken every three hours, with a draught of chamomile tea. Or,

Take of Elecampane root,

Flowers of sulphur, of each an ounce,

Galangal root, half an ounce,

Burned cotton, two drachms,

Syrup of orange peel, enough to make an electuary.

Dose, the size of a walnut, thrice a day.

As auxiliaries to expedite the cure, a tea-spoonful of one of the following bottles of drops may be given with either of the above medicines, twice or thrice a day.

Take of Lixivium of tartar, six drachms,

Spirit of salt ammoniac, two drachms,

Make into drops. Or,

Take of Bitter tincture, six drachms,

Sour elixir of vitriol, two drachms, as before. Or,

Tincture of snake-root, an ounce.

N. B. The flowers of sulphur (in costive habits) given in large quantities, as a meat-spoonful two or three times a day, will remove any ague.

PLEURISY.



## P L E U R I S Y.

**A** Pleurisy is an inflammation of the membrane that lines the ribs, or of the intercostal muscles; the first is called the *true*, the latter, the *spurious*, or bastard pleurisy.

It attacks all parts of the pleura, and sometimes the mediastinum. It rarely, if ever, invades children, or those who have a predominant acid in their stomachs. If owing to another disease, it is called symptomatic; otherwise idiopathic.

The *cause* is that which determines matter to the pleura; or a metastasis of matter from other disorders, or *that* of ulcerous tumours, absorbed by the veins; or whatever is the cause of an inflammation; as, exposing the naked body to the cold air after exercise; drinking cold water when hot, a blow, a fall, a contusion; neglect of usual exercise, or customary evacuations; carrying a weight disproportionate to the strength; inflammatory disposition of the blood; a plethora.

The *diagnostics*. An acute continual fever, a hard pricking, ferrine pulse ; a violent, fixed pungitive pain in the side, greatly exacerbated in inspiration : on holding the breath, or in expiration, the pain is milder ; a cough almost incessant ; a dry furred tongue ; the respiration small, frequent, and operose ; great anxiety about the præcordia ; perpetual moaning, restlessness, agrypnia.

The *prognostics*. If an hæmoptoe supervenes within three days, it is a sign that the disease will not be of long continuance ; if later, it will be the more tedious ; if a spitting doth not come on within fourteen days, the consequence will be an empyema and tabes. If it appears mild on the fifth day, and is aggravated on the seventh, it generally proves mortal. The fifth day is often the last. If the expuition be of a dark brown colour, tough and excreted with difficulty, this, for obvious reasons, is a deadly symptom. The prognosis depends much on the respiration ; if that is very anhelus, and the patient be really peripneumonic, though he seems hearty, speaks strong, and is in his perfect senses, yet in a few hours the shears of Atropos will perform their office. If a whitish viscous buff should appear  
on

on the surface of the drawn blood, or if it be a relapse, the case is dangerous.

If a white light spitting is thrown off, and the fever is not very high, the heat equally distributed throughout the whole body, the thirst not very intense, the expuition performed with facility, the spirits not sunk, the dozes easy, and finish without starting; these are all good signs, and where they appear, the cure is not difficult.

*The cure.* Begin with venæ-section from a large orifice, to be repeated as there is occasion, but not after the disappearance of the white crust. Give plentifully, and as often as possible, of diluting liquids, blood warm, particularly Rhenish-wine whey, or any of those recommended under the article, Fevers in general.

The emetic tartar powders, under the article Fevers in general, are not to be omitted. In the interim, viz. two hours after each powder, i. e. every four hours, let one of the following draughts be given,

Take of Sperma ceti (dissolved in a little of the yoke of an egg)

half a drachm,

Pure nitre, a scruple,



Pure water, an ounce,  
Balsamic syrup, two drachms,  
Volatile aromatic spirit, thirty drops. Or,

Take of diuretic salt, half a drachm,  
Pure nitre, a scruple,  
Volatile salt of amber, seven grains,  
Pure water, an ounce and half,  
Syrup of marsh-mallows, two drachms.

If the form of a bolus is more agreeable,

Take of Pure nitre,  
Olibanum, of each a scruple,  
Camphire, ten grains,  
Balsam of Peru, ten drops,  
Oil of juniper, five drops,  
Syrup of marsh-mallows, enough to make them into  
a bolus. Or,

Take of Pure nitre,  
Rattle-snake root, of each a scruple,  
Mithridate, enough to make a bolus.

To facilitate expuition, and appease the cough, let one  
of the subsequent auxiliaries be used, viz. Twenty drops of  
balsam

balsam of copiaba on sugar, twice or thrice a day; which has no heating quality, as some suppose, but, on the contrary, lowers the pulse: I have seen admirable effects from it. Or, a tea-spoonful of spirits of hartshorn *per se*, which is an excellent attenuant. Or, a tea-spoonful of dulcified spirit of nitre; either of these to be used two or three times a day. This linctus may be allowed at pleasure, to abate the violence of the cough.

Take of Conserve of red roses, half an ounce,

Juice of Seville oranges,

Oil of olives, of each an ounce,

Syrup of meconium, two ounces,

Make it a linctus.

As topical applications are extremely necessary to remove the pain, and discuss the inspissated fluids, the reader is here presented with various forms which have proved efficacious, though perhaps a vesicatory on the part pained, is as eligible as any of them.

Take of Volatile spirit of salt ammoniac,

Oil of olives, of each half an ounce.

Make

Make it a liniment, with which the affected side should be often bathed. Or,

Take of Linseed oil, an ounce,  
Camphire, half an ounce,  
Oil of anniseed, a drachm,

Make it a liniment. Or apply the simple plaister, or the cummin cataplasm. Or,

Take of Fœnugreek,  
Cummin seeds, of each an ounce and half,  
Linseed meal, an ounce,  
Honey, two ounces,  
Oil of olives, enough to make it a poultice. Or,

Take of ointment of marsh-mallows,  
Oil of olives, of each an ounce.

Let it be made a liniment, laying on a flannel after using it.  
Or cupping, with scarification.

QUINSEY.



## Q U I N S Y.

**A** Quinsy, or Angina, is an inflammatory fever, owing to a defluxion upon, or some injury done to the thorax, fauces, or lungs, which occasions a difficulty of deglutition and respiration.

It sometimes appears without any sign of a tumour, external or internal, and is then owing to spasmodic constriction, and requires the same treatment with the suffocating catarrh. That which is the object of present consideration is, when there is a real tumor in some part of the organs of the fauces, tonsils, or circumjacent muscles.

It is usually divided into four species, viz. Cynanche, when the internal muscles of the larynx are affected without an apparent tumor; Paracynanche, when the external muscles of the larynx are affected without an apparent tumor; Synanche, when there is an internal tumor impeding respiration; Parasyanche, when the external muscles of the fauces are inflamed, with a tumor; there are also other spe-

E

cies

cies of it, such as the watery, schirrous, suppuratory, gangrenous and convulsive, as well as inflammatory Angina.

The *cause*. Stagnation of a vitiated fluid in the vessels, from whence arises a compression of the muscles, as must be the case in all inflammations. The obstruction of insensible perspiration may occasion this.

The *diagnostics*. Difficulty of swallowing, laborious respiration, rigidity of the neck, pricking pains about the cheeks, danger of suffocation, a violent fever, sometimes with and sometimes without a tumor.

The *prognostics*. If no swelling appears, it is dangerous. If the tumor is large and respiration very oppressed, present help must be afforded; for if the patient is not soon relieved, suffocation will ensue.

The *cure*. The regimen must be the same as in ardent or other inflammatory fevers; for we treat not under this head of the pituitous Angina. Let blood be drawn from the arm, the jugular, or the sublinguals, according to the strength of the patient. The part affected may be touched with the honey of roses, rendered acid with strong spirit of vitriol. A lump of sugar soaked in camphorated spirits of wine

wine may be suffered to dissolve slowly in the mouth. Use appropriate gargarisms, linctus ; warm cataplasms, for warmth mollifies and discusses ; vesicatories, clysters, lenient cathartics, and if nothing else will avail, bronchotomy, which may be performed with the utmost safety ; were it otherwise, such cases as these would warrant the most hazardous enterprize that could afford the least gleam of hope.

I shall now offer some medicines to the choice of the practitioner, the use of which has been attended with success. Seven drops of oil of amber on a lump of sugar to be kept in the mouth without moving till dissolved : this has often produced an amazing effect.

Take of Long pepper an ounce,

Winters's bark,

Cloves, of each half an ounce.

Boil in a pint of new milk, and let the vapour be received into the mouth through an inverted funnel.

Take of Barley water half a pint,

Rose water, an ounce,

Honey of roses, two ounces,

Pure nitre, half an ounce,



For a gargle to be held in the mouth till it grows warm, and then to be spit out ; to be used every three hours.

Take of simple plaister, enough to be spread on a piece of soft leather, that may reach from ear to ear.

Take of Pure water four ounces,

Honey, two ounces,

Spirits of wine, camphorated, half an ounce,

Spirit of scurvy grafs, two drachms,

Spirit of salt armoniac, a drachm and half,

For a gargle to be used every three hours.

Take of Florentine iris root, an ounce,

Flowers of sulphur,

Long pepper, of each a drachm and half,

Oil of wormwood, a drachm,

Rectified spirit, enough to make a cataplasm, to be applied warm.

The following, though a slovenly, is an ancient and truly useful cataplasm.

Take of Leaves of marsh-mallows,

Leaves of mallows, of each four handfuls,

Poppy heads, one handful, boil in sufficient new milk, for half an hour.

Then add two swallows nests, make a poultice, with which let the whole neck be wrapped round.

Give the emetic tartar powders. See fevers in general. Or,

Take of Salt of wormwood,

Pure nitre, of each a scruple,

Cochineal, five grains,

Pure water, an ounce and half,

Volatile aromatic spirit, twenty-five drops,

A draught to be taken every three hours.

Take of Diuretic salt,

Pure nitre, of each a scruple,

Volatile spirits of hartshorn, seven grains,

Pure water, an ounce and half,

Nutmeg water, two drachms,

Sugar, as much as will make it palatable, for a draught,  
to be taken every three hours.

Twenty or thirty drops of either of the subsequent, may be used as auxiliaries, three or four times a day :

Sweet spirit of vitriol,

Sweet spirit of nitre,

Spirit of hartshorn per se.

P E R I P.

## P E R I P N E U M O N Y.

**A** True Peripneumony is an inflammation of the lungs ; the parts affected are the bronchial or pulmonic arteries, or the lateral lymphatics ; the blood being either obstructed in the former, or propelled into the latter.

*The cause.* Any thing that is the cause of an inflammation, which has been already assigned under the articles Fevers in general and Pleurisy.

*The diagnostics.* A small, sometimes soft, always unequal, undulatory and frequently dicrotic pulse ; swelling of the eyes and cheeks ; a little, frequent, and somewhat tussiculous respiration ; redness of the face, delirium.

*The prognostics.* It terminates like all other inflammations, in health, another disease, or death.

In *health*, if a plentiful yellow spitting comes on ; or even if the expuition be sanguinous ; if the respiration begins to be performed with greater facility.

In



In *another disease* (as a vomica or abscess) if the inflammatory matter cannot be resolved within fourteen days, as may be known by the cessation of pain, while the dyspnoea remains, the cheeks and lips reddening, with a soft, weak, and undulatory pulse.

In *death*, if both lobes of the lungs are affected at the same time; if a coma somnolentum supervenes, a prostration of the vis vitæ, with grievous depression of the spirits; frequent shedding of tears, complaint of heat in the throat, coldness of the extremities, unabating delirium.

The *cure* is various, according to the different state of the disease and symptoms. Rest of body, and a little dissipation of mind, are highly requisite; as also are baths, vapours, clysters, mild cathartics; medicines, such as in pleurisy, with which, in every respect, the treatment should be nearly similar, phlebotomy excepted, which must be used sparingly, and with the utmost caution. Boil elder flowers, mallow leaves, and flax-seed, in milk, and let the vapour be received into the fauces by means of a funnel.

When the matter is resolved and absorbed by the reflux blood, great care must be exhibited, that it doth not settle

on

on some noble part ; for which purpose give attenuants, resolvents, demulcents, diluents, absorbents, diaphoretics, diuretics, or cathartics, pursuing that method of expulsion which is pointed out by nature. I shall now, according to custom, propose some remedies, the efficacy of which has been often experienced.

For common drink, let the pectoral decoction be given, or the next,

Take of Barley water a pint,

Simple oxymel, two ounces,

Pure nitre, half a drachm.

The breast should be often bathed with the following embrocation, three or four times a day at least ; I have seen marvellous advantage from it :

Take of Thebiac tincture,

Vinegar, of each an ounce.

Make a fatus, to be used cold.

Take

Take of balsam of copaiba, an ounce.

Let ten drops be taken on sugar, three or four times a day ;  
whatever else is given, this is not to be dispensed with. A  
linctus may be used at pleasure, as

Take of Conserve of hips, half an ounce,

Oil of sweet almonds, an ounce,

Balsamic syrup, two ounces.

Take of Sperma ceti (dissolved in the yolk of an egg) a scruple,

Pure nitre, ten grains,

Pure water, an ounce and half,

Balsamic syrup, a drachm,

Volatile aromatic spirit, twenty-five drops.

Make a draught, to be taken every two hours. Or,

Take of Compound powder of contrayerva, a scruple,

Bezoar mineral, ten grains,

Snake-root, seven grains,

Camphire, four grains,

Oil of aniseed, three drops,

Balsam of Peru, enough to make a bolus,



To be repeated every fourth hour, washing it down with three spoonfuls of the following mixture :

Take of Diuretic salt, a drachm and half,

Pure nitre, a drachm,

Leaves of scordium, half a drachm,

Pure water, seven ounces,

Nutmeg water, an ounce and half,

Balsamic syrup, two drachms. Or,

Take of Diuretic salt, half a drachm,

Volatile salt of amber, seven grains,

Cochineal, five grains,

Pure water, an ounce and half,

Balsamic syrup, a drachm,

Make a draught, to be taken every fourth hour.

PHRENITIS.

## P H R E N I T I S.

**A** Phrenitis is an inflammatory fever, attended with a constant and fierce delirium.

The *cause*. An inflammation of the brain, or its meninges, or of the septum transversum. If it arises from a primary affection of the brain, it is called idiopathic; if the brain is secondarily affected, symptomatic.

The *diagnostics*. The absurd behaviour of the patient; incoherent, wild, or unmeaning discourse; redness, rolling, and glaring of the eyes; throbbing, and an undulatory motion of the temporal artery, coma vigil, with an acute continual fever.

The *prognostics*. The true phrenitis is generally mortal on the third, fourth, or seventh day at farthest. If it doth not exacerbate on those days, it will terminate in a lethargy, or incurable mania. In old men, or originating from an inflammation of the ilium, or lungs, it is mortal. White stools, or white urine, are the harbingers of death. *Æru-*

ginous vomiting, spitting at the bye-standers, gnashing or grinding of the teeth, or snatching at the bed-clothes, are the fore-runners of a dissolution. If accompanied with laughter, if a gentle sleep supervenes, or the delirium abates at times, a recovery may be expected.

The *cure*. It is to be taken from an inflammation, in general. Open the jugular vein, or (which is preferable) the temporal artery. Give antiphlogistic eccoproticks, as tamarinds, salts, &c. diluting nitrous draughts, clysters two or three times a day; apply emollient fomentations to the anus; if it swells, wash with rectified spirits of wine. A fatus should be frequently used to bathe the whole head with, as,

Take of Spirits of wine camphorated,  
Compound spirits of lavender,  
Vinegar, of each an ounce.

Bathe the feet and legs frequently with the fatus communis warm. After proper evacuations, apply vesicatories to the feet, which have often exceeded my expectation. Opiates,



Take of Tamarinds, two ounces, boil in a pint and half of water,  
strain, and then add,

Currant-rob,

Glauber's salt,

Juice of lemons, of each two ounces.

Of this mixture let a tea-cupful be taken every hour till a  
purging supervenes.

Take of Volatile salt of hartshorn, a scruple,

Sperma ceti (dissolved in the yolk of an egg) fifteen grains,

Volatile salt of amber, ten grains,

Pure water, an ounce and half.

Let the draught be repeated according to the urgency of  
symptoms. Or,

Take of Pure nitre, half a drachm,

Camphire, ten grains,

Thebaic extract, three grains,

Cordial confection, enough to make it a bolus. Or,

Take of The julep of camphire,

The julep of musk, of each four ounces,

Spirit of hartshorn per se, an ounce,

Balsamic syrup, half an ounce,

Let

Let it be made a draught.

Take of Mustard-seed, bruised,  
Horse-radish root, scraped, of each an ounce,  
Vinegar, enough to make it a cataplasm,

To be applied to the soles of the feet.

Take of Camphire, a scruple,  
Æther, half an ounce,

Let it be put into a spoon, and swallowed as quick as possible.

---

#### P A R A - P H R E N I T I S.

**A** Para-phrenitis is an inflammation of the diaphragm. This disease is sometimes mistaken for another, which is nothing surprising, for it requires no small degree of sagacity and medical acumen, to discriminate an affection of the stomach, kidneys, colon, liver, or pancreas, from that of the midriff.

The *cause* is the same as that of other inflammations.

The

The *diagnostics*. An acute continual fever, attended with an inflammatory pain, which is greatly exacerbated by every inspiration, or coughing, or sneezing, or evacuation of the excrements or urine ; a sensation of repletion in the stomach, nausea ; deep, quick, small, suffocative, and painful respiration ; perpetual, but not violent delirium, frequent laughter, risus sardonius, great anxiety of the præcordia, difficult deglutition of solids, convulsions, hiccoughs.

The *prognostics*. This disorder is always extremely dangerous. If the diaphragm suppurates, the pus either falls into the cavity of the abdomen, or breaking upwards, produces an empyema. In all other respects the prognostics are the same as in the pleurisy.

The *cure*. Clysters may be administered every hour, even if the bowels become paralytic ; for they will easily and soon recover their natural tone without medical assistance. When pus is collected and matured, it must be evacuated. Endeavour to abate the inflammation by bleeding, and an antiphlogistic regimen, proceeding exactly in the same method as you would treat a pleurisy, which see.

M A D N E S S.



# M A D N E S S.

**M**ADNESS is a total privation of the due exercise of reason, from some fortuitous injury to the organs of cogitation.

The *cause*. A preternatural accumulation of the vital heat, or nervous influence in the brain, with some impediment to its usual course from thence along its nervine conductors. It is justly called by *Galen*, intemperies ignea cerebri. Its principal seat seems to be in the cortical, while the usual determination of it to the medullary part of the brain is prevented; consequently the cerebellum not equally participating of this enlarged quantity of heat, the exit of more than the customary quantity by the par vagum to the heart is precluded; for this disorder is sometimes attended with little or no fever.

The *diagnosics*. A languid redness of the face, wildness and rolling of the eyes, ghastly staring, mischievousness, absurd discourse, a plethora.

The

The *prognostics*. If attended with laughter and raving, it is easier to be removed than if accompanied with sober, steady, studious fixedness of the thoughts on a particular object. There are few cases, even if hereditary, which will not yield to a proper method of cure.

The *cure*. Elicit the vital heat from the cerebrum, and empty those vessels which, perhaps, by their turgidness, occasion that pressure which prevents the usual influx by the par vagum. Open a vein; if a fever supervenes, it is a good sign, as I have often observed; this operation should be frequently repeated, for no persons can bear the loss of blood better than maniacs, nor is there any case in which it is so necessary to draw it off, and so many times. After due evacuations, apply vesicatories, particularly to the head. Drastring cathartics should be given, and emetics can scarce be exhibited too often. Hence note, that disorders of the head by no means contra-indicate the use of vomits.

In the declination of this distemper, the greatest care and attention must be paid to all the non-naturals, to preclude a relapse, which is not uncommon where these are neglected. The cold bath is then peculiarly serviceable, as is also the

plentiful use of broth, which last is not improper, either in the *beginning, increase, or state* of this distemper.

Take of emetic tartar, seven grains. Let this powder be repeated every hour 'till it vomits. I have known six of them taken without any sensible effect. Five grains at least should be given every day, and the use of the following draught continued for a considerable while,

Take of Salt of wormwood, two scruples,

Pure water, an ounce and half,

Make a draught, to be taken twice or thrice a day. If the emetic tartar will not keep the body open, which is sometimes the case, purging is necessary, and the subsequent draught will answer, which may be repeated as there is occasion.

Take of Tincture of black hellebore, an ounce,

Tincture of jalap, six drachms,

Tincture of castor, two drachms.

I would prefer the flowers of antimony to the emetic tartar, but it is too seldom kept in the shops; the dose is



the same. In a state of convalescence, let two or three of these pills be taken night and morning,

Take of Resuscitated antimony, three drachms,

Cathartic extract, two drachms,

Elixir of aloes, as much as is sufficient to make them into sixty pills.

*Practical Observations on Inflammatory Cases.*

**I**T hath been observed by some ingenious physicians, that inflammatory disorders are by no means so common to be met with as they used to be: to assign the preventive reasons would be no easy matter, for mankind do not seem to be much more sparing in the indulgence of their appetites, more averse from wine, or more discreet in their regimen, than their forefathers were. May it not with greater propriety be attributed to the increased accuracy and precision wherewith practitioners discriminate diseases, who are not so apt as they were formerly to impute every pain or flushing heat to an inflammation. The rapid improve-

ments made in the medical art within these few years, have occasioned even the abolition of several diseases, whose imaginary existence exceedingly puzzled our ancestors.

Another observation, which is equally just and melancholy is, that when inflammatory disorders appear, they have generally a fatal termination. Is it not possible that this may, in some measure, be owing to a too hasty, and frequent repetition of venæ-section? Nature will exert amazing efforts to relieve herself, when the vis vitæ is not much impaired; and I cannot help expressing my apprehensions, that in these cases, in which bleeding is absolutely necessary, it may yet be pursued so far as to incapacitate nature for carrying on the animal functions. For these ten years past I have not lost one patient by an inflammatory fever, yet never ordered blood to be drawn more than *once* in any case, maniacal ones excepted.

As there are several other inflammatory disorders, which have not been noticed in the preceding pages, it may not be amiss to observe, that a similar, if not the same treatment, is equally proper for them all. Some indeed, as has been instanced in the peripneumony, require a more sparing  
use

use of phlebotomy than others. It is to be feared that, to a too liberal use of the lancet, that mortification may be ascribed, which so often supervenes an inflammation, as that of the ilium, easily discovered by the hasty evanescence of the pain. When there is no inflammation, or inflammatory disposition of the blood, nothing can exculpate the practitioner for drawing blood; this would be a wanton waste of the most useful and important of all fluids, and the most necessary for the support of animal life: but even in *these* cases the utmost caution is requisite, lest a putrid disorder should be manufactured from an inflammatory one. It is not an uncommon (though often an irretrievable error) to mistake an obstruction, or acrimony, or serous tumour, for an inflammation, which, if *real*, is---*when the red particles of the blood are forced into the lymphatics*, and cannot possibly exist without its pathognomonic symptoms, viz. violent and universal heat, parching thirst and restlessness, as well as pain in the inflamed part. Inflammatory disorders are far from being common, and many diseases are too often groundlessly ascribed to this cause: that the too precipitate

use



use of the lancet has produced dreadful consequences, I have, in numbers of instances, been a sorrowful and unavailing witness to. How many are hurried off the stage, by being bled for a pain in the side, owing to an incipient ulcer in the lungs! There are various sorts of fevers, which mimic those of the ardent kind, in which venæ-section must be abstained from. I was in a country one autumn where one of these anomalous fevers raged, it spread only through a circle of six or seven miles diameter; it resembled, in every respect, an ardent fever, the pulse only excepted, which was neither hard nor full: every one who was bled died, and every one who was not bled recovered; it never shifted its type, though it commonly continued seventeen days. Those who took the emetic tartar seemed to be soon freed from all febrile symptoms, yet remained weak, uneasy, and greatly out of order, without being able to tell their complaints, as long as the rest. The antiphlogistic method was pursued with them all, nitre, diuretic salt, and such like, were the medicines administered, and with success; yet phlebotomy *once* used always proved fatal.

The

The peremptory axiom of the famous Dr. Mead, viz. in omni febre phlebotomia prius est instituenda is certainly not true, or warranted by experience.

In plethoric habits, or in *real* inflammations, from what has been observed, the reader may easily perceive what method is requisite for the treatment of any inflammatory case, in *whatever* part the inflammation may be situated.

When the pain is very intense, opiates may be safely and happily administered ; of this I have given few instances in the foregoing sheets, that no countenance might be given to the indiscriminate use of a medicine, where a perfect knowledge of the case, and the discreet direction of a skilful hand, are absolutely necessary.

In painful spasmodic constrictions of the capillary vessels, narcotics are undoubtedly indicated : of all the various pretences to be their *correctors*, I believe none so well deserves that name as the salt of wormwood.

## ERUPTIVE FEVERS.

*The* SMALL-POX.

**T**HE Small-pox is a fever of the malignant and contagious kind, attended with a general eruption of particular pustules, affecting the human species only, and each individual but once. The variolous pustules in time become sanious, but those in the measles appear red, dry, and branny, without suppuration.

*The cause.* It seems to be connate with us, and to latitate 'till some violent exagitation of the blood, from the introduction of a variolous particle, raises the seminal ferment, and occasions the appearance of those eruptions.

*The diagnostics.* A frequent and strong pulsation of the brachial and temporal arteries; redness of the eyes, pricking pains



pains in the skin, severe pain in the head, back, and loins ; a febrile heat, greatly increased in three or four days, with thirst, vomiting, palpitation of the heart, difficult respiration, tremblings, rigor, delirium, convulsions, restlessness, hoarseness, fixedness of the eyes, a ptyalism, purple spots ; bladders full of clear water, commonly called the white hives ; the pustules usually appear on the third and fourth day, and arrive at their *state* on the ninth or eleventh, in the distinct sort ; in the confluent, they break forth on the fifth day, and continue till the fifteenth or twenty-first.

The *prognostics*. When the pustules come out suddenly, first red, then white ; broad, round, few, distinct, plump, and sharp at the top, there is little danger. If preceded by convulsions in children, it is a good sign. If they come out irregularly, or immediately disappear, are exceeding small, confluent, or shew black spots, or a dint in the middle ; if attended with a diarrhoea (in adults) difficult respiration, dry husky cough, bloody stools, or urine, continuing delirium, colliquative evacuations ; these are all very bad symptoms, and most of them deadly. Adults suffer most. Gravid women generally miscarry.

*The cure.* Phlebotomy can rarely be used to advantage in any disorder attended with cutaneous eruptions; however, if a lean plethoric body should be invaded, and the pulse hard, venæ-section becomes necessary. The body should be kept soluble, the vis vitæ supported; let the patient have a constant accession of fresh air in his chamber, a clean shirt every other day at farthest; which may in the worst cases be allowed without any hazard: for common drink, apples boiled in water, or milk and water, equal parts; or wine whey, or cyder whey, or vinegar whey, or barley-water acidulated with dulcified spirit of nitre, or dulcified spirit of vitriol; or the pectoral decoction; the more he drinks the better. In the confluent sort, there arises a ptyalism in adults and a diarrhoea in children, either of which ought to be encouraged.

To prevent a secondary fever, give lenient cathartics, to be repeated as the strength will bear, at the distance of two, three, or four days, 'till five purges have been given. After the thirteenth day, the patient may drink plentifully of warm small beer. If the expuition is viscid and tough, or molests by its excess (as it will sometimes even excoriate the parts)

parts) use appropriate gargarisms, syringings, or masticatories. The diarrhoea in adults, on the first eruption should be restrained by opiates. To preserve the face from disfiguration, previous to the appearance of the eruptions, or while they are coming out, the extremities may be bathed with warm milk, or semi-cupia of the same may be used. The cooler the patient is kept, the fewer will the pustules be.

Emetics are of great service in the beginning. Clysters may be given occasionally : in cases when the patient is very low, on the approach of a crisis, a good effect may be reasonably expected from vesicatories. A narcotic may be administered every night in the confluent sort, and ought to be, if the patient is not comatose, such as,

Take of Pure water, an ounce,

Tincture of castor, twenty-five drops,

Thebaic tincture, fifteen drops,

Volatile aromatic spirit,

Compound spirits of lavender, of each thirty drops,

Syrup of meconium, half an ounce,

Make a paregoric draught, to be taken every night if necessary. A linctus is a very convenient and agreeable



form to convey a medicine that may increase the ptyalism, and at the same time prevents its being troublesome. The following is extremely desirable, and may be taken as often as is required, with equal pleasure and advantage:

Take of Conserve of hips, half an ounce,  
 Balsamic syrup,  
 Oil of olives, of each an ounce,  
 Spirit of vitriol, enough to render it a gratefully acid linctus.

If after recovery, there seems to be a tendency to a phthisis, removal is necessary into a warm dry air, and the regimen should be pursued that is recommended under that article. To prevent pitting, let this liniment be applied to the face three or four times a day,

Take of Camphire, two scruples,  
 Sperma ceti, half an ounce,  
 Oil of olives, an ounce,

Make a liniment.

It is scarcely necessary to observe, that if an hæmoptoe should appear, in the decline of the disease, the use of the bark is indicated.

It

It is to be hoped, that in a little time the practice of inoculating children under three months old, will become universal, and put an entire end to the ravages of this loathsome and dangerous disorder.

The following medicines have been peculiarly serviceable in some very alarming cases :

Take of Salt of wormwood, a drachm and half,

Pure nitre, half a drachm,

Pure water, six ounces,

Strong cinnamon water,

Juice of lemons, of each an ounce,

Balsamic syrup, half an ounce ;

Of this mixture three spoonfuls to be taken every sixth hour. Or either of the subsequent boles may be given every sixth hour :

Take of Compound powder of contrayerva,

Æthiops mineral, of each a scruple,

Castor, ten grains,

Balsamic syrup, enough to make it a bole.

Take of *Æthiops mineral*, a scruple,  
Snake-root,  
Castor, of each ten grains,  
Syrup of meconium, enough for a bole.

If a draught is more eligible, one of these draughts may  
be taken every fix hours, viz.

Take of Diuretic salt,  
Cordial confection, of each a scruple,  
Pure water, an ounce and half,  
Nutmeg water, two drachms,

For a draught. Or,

Take of Calx of antimony, a scruple,  
Pure nitre, ten grains,  
Volatile salt of amber, five grains,  
Cochineal, four grains,  
Pure water, an ounce and half,

Make it a draught. Or,

Take of Soluble tartar, a scruple,  
Pure water, two ounces,  
Balsamic syrup, a drachm,

For a draught.



*Slow, Nervous, and Miliary* FEVERS.

**T**HE Slow Fever is so called from the gentleness of its progress, and length of its continuance.

The Nervous Fever receives its name from a supposed morbid quality in the nervous influence, or a relaxed state of the nerves themselves, which is just as imaginary as the other. To say the truth, *nervous disorders* are a mighty handy and convenient expression to conceal ignorance.

The Miliary Fever is so termed, from the resemblance of its eruptions to millet seed.

They all proceed from the same causes, and require the same method of treatment.

The *causes*. A deficiency and unequal distribution of the vital heat, consequently, a declension of the powers of nature, a lentor, viscosity in the fluids ; a relaxed state of the arterial system, or spasmodic constrictions of the capillary arteries, some error in regard to the non-naturals.

The

The *diagnosics*. Chills and flushings, lassitude, nausea, prostration of the strength and spirits, listlessness ; heat in the palms of the hands and soles of the feet, while all the rest of the body is cold, and emaciates fast ; a sensation like cold water thrown down the back, the pulse quick, weak, and unequal, pale urine, coma, heat and dryness of the tongue, sometimes with, and sometimes without thirst ; miliary eruptions, anxiety, tinnitus aurium ; cold, clammy, or colliquative sweats ; convulsions, delirium, subfultus tendinum.

The *prognosics*. All the symptoms are exacerbated towards night, a tingling noise in the ears is generally the forerunner of a delirium ; a copious spitting, or gentle breathing sweats, are good signs ; profuse sweats are bad ones ; insensibility, twitchings of the tendons, involuntary evacuations of the excrements, urine, or tears, are preludes to the last catastrophe.

The *cure*. All evacuations are inadmissible, vomits only excepted ; sometimes very lenient clysters, such as new milk and sugar, may safely be administered, if nature inclines to stool. Give mountain whey, meat broths, as strong as the stomach

stomach will bear ; jellies, panada, with spice, wine, or brandy in ~~the~~ such things as these may be often offered, though ever so little is taken at a time : the medicines necessary are attenuants, restoratives, nervines, and cordials. If the sweats are profuse, let warm napkins be frequently applied to the neck, breast, and abdomen ; for though gentle sweats are of service, when they become profuse, they only tend to the dissolution of the patient in a double sense : in this case, red port wine and water may be allowed. The neck and breast should be examined every day, for eruptions commonly appear in those parts first, their portent is good, and they indicate the use of cardiacs.

Take of Ipecacuanha, three grains,

Blue vitriol,

Emetic tartar, of each one grain,

Let this powder be taken every morning, out of a spoon half full of water : nothing should be drank either during the operation, or 'till the nausea goes off spontaneously. Many unexpected recoveries have been owing to this powder alone. The following also have been amazingly efficacious,

I

Take



Take of Cordial confection,

Castor, of each a scruple,

Cinnabar of antimony, three grains,

Syrup of ginger, enough to make a bolus.

To be taken every fourth hour, washing it down with four spoonfuls of the following julep,

Take of The camphire julep,

Musk julep, of each four ounces,

Spirit of hartshorn per se, half an ounce. Or,

Take of Compound powder of contrayerva,

Musk, of each a scruple,

Balsamic syrup, as much as is sufficient to make it a bole.

To be taken every sixth hour, washing it down with this draught,

Take of Volatile salt of hartshorn,

Cordial confection, of each a scruple,

Pure water, an ounce and half,

Nutmeg water, half an ounce.

*Putrid,*

*Putrid, Malignant, and Petechial FEVER.*

**T**HESE may be classed together in the same manner with the last three, because they are each produced by similar causes, and require very little, if any difference, in the method of treating them : to this class also belong the gaol or hospital fever, and the pestilence.

The *cause*. A putrescent acrimony, or infectious miasmata. The obstruction of insensible perspiration is no uncommon cause of putrid fevers ; for the retention of those particles within the body which ought to have been thrown out of it, may, and often does, occasion a speedy putrefaction, especially when there is the least pre-disposition in the fluids to such a dissolution.

The *diagnostics*. Pain in the temples or orbit of the eye ; the eye heavy, yellowish, or somewhat inflamed ; the face bloated, and of a cadaverous aspect ; faintness, operose respiration, frequent sighing, erratic pains, the pulse small,

sometimes quick, and sometimes the same as that of a person in perfect health ; black tongue, bitter taste in the mouth, crude vapid urine ; livid petechiæ from the extra-vasation of grumous blood in the cellular membrane, vibices, aphthæ, furred lips and teeth, little thirst, tinnitus aurium, lumbago, colliquative evacuations.

The *prognostics*. A mild diarrhœa is serviceable ; the petechiæ florid, a smarting red rash, scabs on the nose or lips, watery vesicles, are all good symptoms. Black urine or stools, small dusky spots, dun, or greenish ; a lurid efflorescence, large livid blotches, black vibices, sweats profuse, cold or clammy ; griping and bloody stools, coma and coldness of the extremities are all symptoms of an approaching dissolution.

The *cure*. The intestinal canal may be cleansed, and the drain kept open by small doses of rhubarb. The regimen necessary is much the same with that in the preceding chapter, particularly with respect to wine, though Rhenish is generally the most eligible ; but in case of colliquative evacuations red port is preferable ; give also freely of the vegetable and mineral acids, Peruvian bark, astringents, antiseptics,



antiseptics, camphire and opiates. Let vinegar be frequently thrown on a hot iron in the room and a little of the bark of cascarilla be now and then burned in it. Volatile alcalis may be used sparingly ; but throughout the whole stage of this disorder, with-hold the lancet, as you tender the life of the patient. The formulæ subjoined have been peculiarly successful.

Take of Bark, half a drachm,

Camphire, three grains,

Syrup of saffron, enough to make a bole,

To be taken every fourth hour, drinking after it three table spoonfuls of the following mixture,

Take of Pure water, six ounces,

Compound horse-rhadiſh water,

Vinegar, of each two ounces,

Sugar, as much as you please. Or,

Take of Compound powder of contrayerva, two drachms,

Tormentil root,

Myrrh, of each one drachm,

Make into six powders ; one to be taken every fourth hour with the subsequent draught :

Take

Take of Pure water, an ounce and half,

Lemon juice, half an ounce,

Cochineal, five grains,

White sugar, what you please. Or,

Take of Bark,

Venice treacle, of each half a drachm,

Syrup of saffron, enough to make a bole,

To be taken every sixth hour, and washed down with the  
above draught. Or,

Take of Bark of eleutheria, half a drachm,

Winter's bark,

Myrrh, of each a scruple,

Syrup of saffron, enough to make a bole,

To be used as the former.

The emetic tartar powders and opiates, to restrain the  
diarrhœa, if requisite, or Norris's drops.

PUTRID

## PUTRID SORE THROAT.

**T**HE Putrid Sore Throat, is a disorder of the malignant kind, which has not been perfectly described or known 'till within these few years.

The *cause*. A putrid diathesis of the fluids.

The *diagnostics*. Fulness and foreness of the throat, a sensation of stiffness in the neck, redness of the arms, hands, or breast; frequent sighing, nausea, anxiety about the præcordia, languidness, great dejection, repeated sneezings, agrypnia, thin crude urine, a pulse quick and small, bloated countenance, swelling of the maxillary and parotid glands and tonsils, ulcerations, sloughing of the ulcers.

The *prognostics*. The prognostics depend on the progress of the putrescent acrimony, and on the respiration.

The *cure*. All evacuations are deleterious, especially phlebotomy. It requires a similar treatment with other putrid fevers, but is the least rebellious of them all, for the cure is not very difficult. As it is sometimes epidemical,

the



the best orvietan or preventive perhaps is to drink freely of red port ; at a time when it was exceeding ripe, they who used this prophylactic escaped the disorder. Cordials and gargarisms seem the only necessary aids, as,

Take of Cordial confection, half a drachm,

Castor, a scruple,

Pure water, an ounce,

Nutmeg water, two drachms,

A draught to be taken every fourth hour. Or,

Take of Cordial confection, a scruple,

Snake-root,

Castor, of each ten grains,

Syrup of saffron, enough to make a bole.

To be swallowed every fourth hour.

Take of Pectoral decoction an ounce,

Tincture of myrrh,

Red wine,

Honey of roses,

Vinegar, of each half an ounce,

For a gargle, to be used occasionally, or every two or three hours. Or,

Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,

Diffolve

Dissolve in one pint of pure water, for a gargle; to which may be occasionally added as much spirit of vitriol as is agreeable. If the ulcers spread and increase, add to the above solution five grains of sublimate, dissolved in five drops of the marine acid. Beware of the use of nitre in this disorder.

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## T H R U S H.

**A** PHTHÆ, or the Thrush, are little ulcerous tubercles, which affect the inside of the mouth, stomach, and intestines.

The *cause*. A saline, viscid, or acrimonious lymph.

The *diagnostics*. They appear first on the tongue, or in the corners of the mouth.

The *prognostics*. If white, pellucid, thin, scattered, and superficial, they are of little consequence: if brown, opaque, black, thick, or run together, they forebode some danger.

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When

When they have passed through the body, and appear at the anus with excoriation, apply melasses.

*The cure.* Assist nature as in other fevers. They are often fatal to adults : whether they who escaped them in their infancy are the only persons liable to be attacked by them is at least problematical. The treatment is the same with that of the miliary fever. The following gargle is excellent for infants, viz.

Take of Gum arabic, two drachms,  
Lime water, an ounce and half,  
Balsamic syrup, two drachms,

It may be used every hour, and if swallowed can do no prejudice to the child.

Take of Pure nitre, a drachm,  
Three whites of eggs,  
Rose water, six ounces,  
Balsamic syrup, an ounce,

Let it be made a gargle for adults, to be used occasionally ; or the following, which will answer the same purposes :

Take



Take of Gum tragacanth, a drachm,  
 Pure water, seven ounces,  
 Honey of roses, one ounce,  
 Strong spirit of vitriol, twenty-five drops.

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## M E A S L E S.

**T**HE Measles require a treatment not much different from the small-pox. They are both natives of Africa.

The *cause*. Infectious miasmata sui generis.

The *diagnostics*. Small, dry, red spots, like flea-bites; they never suppurate, but arrive at their state in four days; an almost perpetual cough, weakness, soreness, or running of the eyes, swelling of the eye-lids, running of the nose, convulsions.

The *prognostics*. It is not a dangerous disorder, if not rendered so by mismanagement.

The *cure*. Nature is the best physician in this case; nor does she stand in need of any medicines to assist her. Venæ-

fection appears to be highly improper, and is most certainly often productive of the most disagreeable consequences ; I never ordered it in my life in this case, yet never lost *one* patient in the measles ; nor to say the truth, did I ever hear of one that died who was *not* bled. If convulsions precede or accompany the eruption, they are by no means a bad prognostic ; the tincture of wood-foot may then be given with great advantage, fifteen or twenty drops three or four times a day. The linctus under the article small-pox may be used at pleasure ; as in the small-pox, the little patient cannot be kept too cool. The drink may be cyder-whey, vinegar-whey, butter-milk ; or, for weakly children, thin broth. Medicines are seldom necessary during this disorder ; but as soon as the eruptions begin to disappear, cathartics should be exhibited, as in the small-pox, which, for obvious reasons, are necessary after all eruptive fevers. The subsequent drops are of amazing efficacy in removing the cough which so often remains after the measles,

Take of Balsam of capivi, an ounce,

Let ten drops be taken on brown sugar morning and night.

SCARLET

## SCARLET FEVER.

THE scarlet fever is so called on account of the colour of the skin, or the large, red, vivid blotches in it.

The *causes*. Viscidity, acrimony, an unequal distribution of the vital heat; the protrusive force of the heart, overcoming the resistance of the solids, wherefore children are most subject to it. It seems to be in some degree infectious.

The *diagnosics*. They appear from the definition.

The *prognostics*. If attended with anxiety, dejection, or oppression at the pit of the stomach, the liberal use of cardiacs is indicated. It is seldom dangerous if left to nature, without any officious interposition. To drink plentifully of diluting liquids, and to be kept cool, is all that is requisite. Many children have perished by the use of the lancet, which is intended to remove that straitness and suffocating sensation so common in this disorder; but these do not originate from



from repletion, but from depletion : a little emetic tartar, and cordials, are the most eligible remedies.

The *cure*. Let wine-whey be given freely. The patient should not be kept warm : let his linen be shifted every day. After the third day one of the following formulæ may be used :

Take of Calx of antimony,  
Diuretic salt, of each a drachm,  
Pure water, seven ounces,  
Nutmeg water, two ounces,  
Balsamic syrup, two drachms,

A mixture, two spoonfuls to be taken every sixth or fourth hour. Or,

Take of Cordial confection, two drachms,  
Calx of antimony, one drachm,  
Volatile salt of amber, a scruple,  
Pure water, seven ounces,  
Nutmeg-water, two ounces,  
Balsamic syrup, half an ounce,

A mixture, of which two spoonfuls may be given every fourth or third hour.

Take

Take of Spirit of nitre dulcified, an ounce.

Let twenty drops be given in every draught of liquid that the patient takes.

## P H T H I S I S.

**A** Pulmonary Phthisis, or consumption, is owing to an ulcer in the lungs, whereby the whole body is gradually emaciated and consumed.

The *cause*. That (whatever it is) which occasions the stagnation of the blood in the lungs, 'till it is converted into purulent matter; this may be owing to a teneritude of the arterial vessels, an acrid blood, debility of the fibres of the viscera, long neck, straight breast, depressed scapulæ, an ulcer in the liver, spleen, pancreas, kidneys, mesentery, or uterus, a metastasis of matter, neglect of customary exercise.

The *diagnostics*. A slight fever, generally exacerbated towards evening; too great, but particular heat; flying stitches,

stitches, hectic flushings, pain in the stomach or breast, pain in the side, the patient lying with most ease on the affected side; hereditary disposition, the age from sixteen to thirty-six; indigestion, frequent spitting; night sweats, particularly profuse towards morning, sensation like cold water thrown down the back, diarrhoea, a bloody, frothy, or foetid excretion, wasting of the flesh, languor, lassitude, peevishness, great unevenness of temper, sudden starts and bursts of joy terminating in tears, incurvation and lividness of the nails, quick and interrupted respiration; a teasing and almost incessant cough, worst in the night, aversion from food, facies Hippocratica.

The *prognostics*. An hereditary phthisis is the most dangerous. If the cough is very troublesome, the respiration operose, the saliva stinking, the ancles swelled, the body much wasted, the evacuations colliquative, and the countenance Hippocratic, death seems to be approaching with hasty strides. A phthisis attended with a total obstruction of the catamenia produced by bleeding is absolutely incurable. A phthisis in which the vomica breaks suddenly,



the expuition white and cocted, the appetite and digestion tolerably good, is easily curable.

Previous to entering on the method of *cure*, I would intreat the reader's indulgence, and bespeak his candor in attending to the apology for proposing a method so entirely opposite to that which is pursued by the rest of my brethren: it is not without a very sensible uneasiness and reluctance that I differ from them, but however dear Socrates and Plato may be, truth is still dearer: strange must it appear that I should recommend a medicine as our sheet anchor, the use of which has been condemned by the most enlightened and justly celebrated physician in Europe, to whom the nil ortum tale may with the utmost propriety be ascribed; but as he took it for granted that the balsam of capivi possessed a *heating quality*, his reasoning however conclusive, could be of little consequence, as the basis on which it is erected is a non-entity; for the fact is, that the said balsam, for its utility in pleurifies and lowering the pulse, for its allaying spasms, appeasing irritation and considerably decreasing the hectic fever, appears to have, like other detergents, a quite contrary quality. As I have for several years

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occasioned

occasioned the consumption of some quarts in a week of this balsam, I am certainly entitled to speak with a degree of confidence on the effects it produces.

As to the other regimen recommended, viz. a vegetable diet, and to take away a little blood now and then, I always observed that the patient died; but how could it be otherwise, when the disorder was pronounced incurable (which by the way *every one* is said to be which we do not know how to cure) I could not help suspecting that the fore-mentioned event might possibly be owing to bleeding, and therefore determined to try an opposite method; and as no person was a more proper subject to try such an experiment on than myself, I beg leave to lay before the reader a plain and succinct narrative of my own case.

I was upwards of thirty years of age, when, from a neglected cold in the month of November, I was seized with a hectic, which in the rapidity of its progress equalled any thing that I ever saw: before the expiration of the ensuing month I was in the following condition, notwithstanding all the efforts of two judicious and learned physicians, viz. laboured under an invincible diarrhœa, with colliquative stools

stools and sweats, an incessant cough, which precluded all possibility of sleep, an entire loathing of all food, legs swelled to an enormous size, a body as much emaciated as that of any human being could be, to continue in existence, too weak to walk or even stand without assistance, violent spasmodic constriction of the lungs every night, which I had not the least expectation of surviving, nor at the approach of evening entertained the smallest hopes of beholding the light of another day: my physicians pronounced my recovery impossible. I was then, at my own earnest request, with great difficulty, removed to a drier air at about a mile's distance, and to a much higher ground; I took the dry vomit immediately, and repeated it every morning for several days, used the balsam of capivi twice a day, and swallowed a tea-cupful of pork broth as often as I could; in a word, I pursued the same method recommended below (which I have since recommended to thousands in the same disorder, with the same success) and in six weeks time was perfectly recovered, nor have ever since felt the slightest complaint, but at this present time of writing, am as healthy and hearty a grey-headed old fellow as any one in his majesty's

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dominions.



dominions. The success I have met with in the treatment of this disorder, is too well known for me to add any thing further than this solemn declaration, that I have concealed nothing relative to the method used with myself, and with all those who have been under my care for phthical disorders; the subsequent, I repeat it, is precisely the same, and I beg to be excused from producing any arguments in its defence, for as facts are of a nature too stubborn to bend, there are a croud of *living* witnesses, who are sufficient proofs of its propriety.

The *cure*. The non-naturals require the strictest attention. New milk should be taken for breakfast and supper; if it purges, it must be boiled: cow's milk is preferable to that of asses: goat's whey is too diluent, and I have seen several fatal effects from the use of it. Meat broths may be taken as strong as the stomach will bear, particularly of pork; jellies prepared from any animal substance should be taken as often as possible. Let the patient ride on horseback every morning, if too weak to sit alone, he must be supported by one that rides behind him, for riding in a morning is absolutely necessary. A warm, dry, clear air, the Bristol waters,

Spa water, or for common drink, infusion of linseed, decoction of bran, or for change, sago, salep, or chocolate. Tea prepared from colts-foot flowers, and sweetened with honey, I have no small reason to recommend the frequent use of; snails or earth worms boiled in milk are serviceable, as are shell-fish of all sorts, wild fowls, generous wine and spices. Conserve of red roses may be eaten to the quantity of two or three ounces in a day, with vast advantage. Acids are sometimes serviceable, stomachic plaisters, a Burgundy pitch plaister between the shoulders, to be kept on for some weeks; vesicatories, but above all things the dry vomit, as,

Take of Emetic tartar,

Blue vitriol, of each seven grains,

Make into three powders; let one be taken in a morning fasting, twice or thrice a week, not drinking any thing during the operation; if the nausea does not go off spontaneously, a spoonful of raw brandy will remove it. Or, if the diarrhoea is very violent,

Take

Take of Ipecacuanha, five grains,

Blue vitriol, one grain ;

Let this powder be taken (as before) *every* morning.

In an incipient ulcer of the lungs, when the pain in the side has been exceeding troublesome, recourse has been often had to the lancet, which is the ready way to bring on an incurable phthisis. I appeal to the conscience of the practitioner, whether he has not frequently experienced this consequence.

N. B. When an ulcer in the lungs is formed, the urine discharged at night is very turbid the next morning. The balsam of capivi ought never to be omitted in the cure of this disorder ; let twenty drops be taken on sugar in powder every night and morning. If the diarrhœa is not excessive, as it seldom is at the beginning of a phthisis, I have often found that the subsequent mixture will carry off the hectic, which generally terminates in the appearance of a rash :

Take of Salt of wormwood,

Calx of antimony, of each a drachm,

Pure



Pure water, seven ounces,

Nutmeg water, two ounces,

Volatile aromatic spirit,

Balsamic syrup, of each half an ounce,

Of this mixture, let three spoonfuls be taken every sixth or fourth hour. Or,

Take of Salt of wormwood, two drachms,

Simple mint water, seven ounces,

Fœtid tincture,

Balsamic syrup, of each half an ounce,

A mixture. Three spoonfuls to be taken twice or thrice a day, to which may be added (if the diarrhœa is excessive) from forty to eighty drops of thebaic tincture.

If the diarrhœa should prove, as it often does, the most troublesome and dangerous symptom, it should be restrained by opiates; as three, four, or five grains of the Styrax pill, which may be taken at bed-time, to be repeated occasionally: a scruple of the astringent red gum may be used for the same purpose, or the same quantity of the tormentil root; but the boles and sealed earths are worse than useless.

Take

Take of Blue vitriol, five grains,

Dissolve in an ounce of tincture of cantharides. Of these drops, let twenty be taken twice a day, increasing the dose one drop at a time, 'till it amounts to a tea-spoonful. They have often effected wonders ; but with this, or whatever other medicine is used, let not the balsam of Capivi be neglected. I shall subjoin two more formulæ, from which also I have experienced the most desirable consequences :

Take of Bark, six drachms,

Extract of liquorice, two drachms,

Oil of aniseeds, forty drops,

\*Filings of iron, two scruples,

Mucilage of gum arabic, as much as is sufficient to make an electuary,

The size of a walnut to be taken night and morning.

Take of Gum ammoniac,

Assa fœtida, of each a drachm,

Squills, ten grains,

\* Or, nitre, two scruples—as the hectic is less or more.

Filings

Filings of iron, one scruple,

Balsam of Peru, enough to make it into pills,

Number thirty-two ; let two or three be taken night and morning. See cough, and the following.

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E M P Y E M A.

**A**N Empyema is a collection of pus or matter in the cavity of the thorax.

The *cause*. The rupture of a vomica : this proceeds from an inflammation, bruise, or wound (if closed too soon) of any of the five parts, viz. the lungs, pleura, diaphragm, mediastinum, or precardium.

The *diagnostics*. Twenty days from the time that the inflammation began ; from the signs of the disappearance of a vomica, a new pain, dry cough, sensation of pressure on

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the midriff, lying with ease on one side only, viz. on *that* where the matter is congested, a slow fever, expuition of purulent matter, thirst, the face flushed, the eyes hollow, redness of the cheeks, swelling of the abdomen; on leaning forwards, danger of suffocation.

The *prognostics*. If the pus is whitish, and of good consistence, the expuition easy, the respiration free, and the mind calm, these are all good signs; but if after the rupture there be an accumulation of pus, putrefaction of the fluids, sanious stools, and Hippocratic countenance, it may prove fatal.

The *cure*. To determine the pus externally must be attempted at all events, by proper medicines or cutting; the operation is to be performed between the third and fourth rib numbered from below\*. In the mean time keep the body open and give terebinthines, as

Take of Common turpentine,

Olibanum, of each what quantity you please,

\* I have known it often to succeed, though sometimes the patient dies tabid. After the operation, use detergent injections every day of barley-water well acidulated, and keep open the wound for some weeks with a leaden canula.

Form

Form into a mass of pills of five grains each ; three to be taken twice or thrice a day. Or,

Take of Bark, an ounce,

Balsam of Capivi,

Sperma ceti, of each half an ounce,

The yolk of one egg,

Honey of roses, as much as is sufficient to make an electuary ;

Two tea-spoonfuls to be taken twice or thrice a day.

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## H A E M O P T O E.

**A** Spitting of blood is sometimes an idiopathic disease, to which some persons are subject at times for many years, without any manifest inconvenience.

The *cause*. Teneritude of the fibres of the lungs.

The *diagnostics*, or concomitant symptoms, are sensation of soreness in the breast, of weight in the diaphragm, a husky

cough, pallid countenance, lank hair, flabbiness of the flesh, dislike to exercise.

The *prognostics*. Bleeding generally ensures a severer return, or brings on an incurable phthisis. If that evacuation has not been premised, the cure is not difficult.

The ingenious Monsieur Le Sage has, in his usual sprightly manner, graphically delineated a scene wherein the Grim Monarch is represented with awful dignity, conferring the doctoral cap on all those medical students who take a solemn oath never to deviate from the present method of practice, and ranking them among the number of his truest and dearest friends. In *his* time and country, the picture bore no very enlarged features; but in this enlightened age, and in a nation teeming with philosophers, who will take nothing on trust, whatever deference may be due to a generally received opinion, it can certainly be no unpardonable crime to call the propriety of it in question, and if it is found unsupportable by experiments, to militate against it. Of this kind, it is presumed, is that too general one of the necessity of blood-letting in internal hæmorrhages, which I  
have



have often seen to prove highly pernicious, and productive of fatal consequences. Of what signification is it whether a person loses his life by bleeding from a natural or artificial orifice? I once knew a family, of which two brothers and two sisters were each at different times seized with an hæmoptoe; they were all bled five or six times, and not one of them survived many weeks after their respective attacks; another brother was taken in the like manner, who suspecting the effects of the lancet, applied to me, and although he at that time laboured under a confirmed lues, he was soon (without bleeding) restored to, and still continues in perfect health.

Innumerable instances have I been witness to, of the most alarming hæmorrhages, which have all yielded to the use of vomits, and the method laid down below, without a single application of the lancet; if then (as is evident) phlebotomy is not necessary to the cure, is it not more eligible to preserve that important fluid, than to lavish it away without cause, and thereby destroy the health and shorten the lives of those who commit themselves to our care?

The

The cure. I never failed of success with those who had not been bled. The first thing given was always the dry vomit, as,

Take of Emetic tartar,

Blue vitriol, of each two grains \* ;

This powder should be taken in a spoon half full of water, let the patient strain, which straining he may provoke if necessary, with his finger or a feather, but drink nothing 'till he throws up some yellow or porraceous matter, and if his sickness does not then go off, half a glass of raw brandy will settle his stomach ; if that should be returned immediately, which is sometimes the case, a repetition of the same will answer expectation. Give twenty drops of the balsam of Capivi, night and morning, for several weeks, to prevent a return, and the following electuary :

Take of Bark, six drachms,

Flowers of sulphur, three drachms,

Pure nitre, one drachm,

\* The emetic tartar may be given first, and as soon as the nausea commences, the vitriol immediately exhibited.

Precipitated sulphur of antimony, a scruple,  
Mucilage of gum arabic, enough to make an electuary.

The size of a nutmeg to be taken twice or thrice a day. So long as the spittle is in the least tinged, the following mixture should be used, which may from the first invasion be drank at pleasure:

Take of Gum arabic, two ounces, dissolve in

Pure water, a pint,

Pure nitre, two scruples,

Balsamic syrup, half an ounce,

Of this mixture four large spoonfuls may be taken every two or three hours, or linseed tea, three tea-cupfuls to be drank two or three times a day. Or,

Take of Conserve of red roses, two ounces,

Red astringent gum, half an ounce,

Make an electuary, of which the size of a walnut may be taken every hour. See weakness of the solids.

**HAEMOR-**



## H A E M O R R H A G E S.

**A**LL Hæmorrhages (the piles only excepted) require precisely the same treatment with the foregoing article, which see. In acute disorders, internal hæmorrhages proceed from a plethora, but I never yet met with one instance of a chronical hæmorrhage in a plethoric habit.

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## H I C C O U G H.

**T**HE Hiccough is a convulsive motion of the stomach and midriff.

The *cause*. An acrid irritating matter, adhering to the left orifice of the stomach: the diaphragm is affected by consent of parts. Sometimes repletion may occasion it, and sometimes depletion.

The

The *diagnostic* is sufficiently obvious.

The *prognostics*. Sneezing generally removes it, or compression of the artery at the wrists ; or frequent sipping of any liquid, or stopping both ears for a minute or two, or holding the breath, or a sudden fright, or fixing the eyes intensely on an object in an oblique direction. Proceeding from wounds, profuse evacuations, in asthmas, or at the close of a malignant fever ; it is always a dangerous, and often a deadly symptom.

The *cure*. Emetics and cathartics are indicated, if it arises from repletion ; if from depletion, diaphoretics, diuretics, opiates, clysters, and fomentations ; as the common fomentation, or thebaic tincture and vinegar, of each equal parts, to bathe the pit of the stomach with. Of the following formulæ, the practitioner may select that which is the best adapted to the case.

Take of The musk julep, five ounces,

Tincture of castor, two drachms,

For a draught. Or a tea-spoonful of these drops may be taken, and repeated pretty often, if necessary,

Take of Compound spirit of lavender, six drachms,

Volatile aromatic spirit, two drachms,

For a bottle of drops.

Take of Salt of wormwood, two scruples,

Tincture of cardamoms, two drachms,

Pure water, an ounce and half,

Compound horse-radish-water, two drachms,

A draught, to be repeated as there is occasion.

Take of Bitter purging salt, one ounce,

Pure water, seven ounces,

Tincture of assa-fœtida, half an ounce,

----- Thebaic, a drachm.

A clyster,

Take of Volatile salt of hartshorn,

Cordial confection, of each a scruple,

Musk fifteen grains,

Oil of mint, five grains,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for a bolus,

Take



Take of Castor,

Musk, of each a scruple,

Oil of cinnamon, three drops,

Thebaic extract, two grains,

Syrup of Saffron, enough for a bole.

Either of the above boles may be given according to the urgency of the symptoms.

## ERYSIPELAS.

**E**RYSIPELAS, or St. Anthony's Fire, is an external inflammation, which generally affects the face, and sometimes the breast. St. Anthony was supposed, like many of our modern saints, to take great pleasure in adding to the miseries of mankind; but in these times, we readily exculpate said saint from having any hand in the infliction of this disorder.

The *causes*. Those which produce an internal inflammation, or an acrid humour, heats and colds, errors in the non-naturals, an obstruction of any customary evacuation.

The *diagnostics*. Swelling of the part, with pain and redness; inflammatory pimples; if pressed lightly by the finger, the appearance of a white spot.

The *prognostics*. It is removable without much difficulty; is no ways dangerous, unless the eruptions are repelled by cold, and then very disagreeable consequences may ensue.

The *cure*. Being a cutaneous disorder, vanæ-section may be dispensed with, which cannot be necessary when any eruptions appear on the skin. It is a common observation with ignorant practitioners, that the blood which they have let is exceeding bad, and it is much better such blood should be out of the body than in it: if this argument were worthy of refutation, it might be asked, Whether drawing off a pint or two from a pipe of bad wine, would have any tendency to meliorate the remainder? Dr. Sangrado's method was much more plausible, in taking away the whole mass, and refilling the vessels with the bland warm element. If the blood is bad, it must be mended in the body, and the  
use

use of proper alteratives is indicated ; but to decrease the quantity of it, is to lower the vital heat, and to preclude the good effects of those alteratives, which might afterwards be administered.

Diaphoretics will greatly assist nature in expelling that which is offensive ; diuretics are exceeding serviceable in this disorder ; mild cooling cathartics also are of considerable utility. As for example :

Take of Elder rob, an ounce,  
Pure nitre, half a drachm,  
Pure water, five ounces,

A gently sweating potion to be taken at night going to bed.

Take of sweet spirit of nitre, an ounce.

Of these drops let a tea-spoonful be taken twice or thrice a day.

Take



Take of Glauber's salts, ten drachms,  
Oil of amber, seven grains,  
Pure water, three ounce and a half,

For a purging draught, to be taken in the morning.

As external applications will expedite the cure, the reader is presented with several efficacious ones below; though, perhaps, wetting the parts two or three time a day with camphorated spirit of wine, is not inferior to any of them.

Take of the internal elder bark, two ounces, boil in a pint and half of water to a pint; then add of

Soft soap, an ounce and half,

Make a fomentation, to be used night and morning.

Take of elder leaves, two ounces, boil in ten ounces of linseed oil, strain for a liniment to be used as the above fomentation. Or touch the inflamed parts now and then with common ink, Or,

Take of Spirit of wine camphorated, an ounce and half,  
Compound spirit of lavender, three drachms,  
Oil of amber, one drachm.

A liniment

A liniment to be used morning and night, Or,

Take of Strong spirit of vitriol, twenty drops,

Extract of lead, forty drops,

Rose water, five ounces,

A ~~potion~~.

Take of Spirits of wine camphorated, an ounce,

To be applied three or four times a day; as soon as the parts are dry, rub in a little of the following liniment:

Take of the ointment of white precipitate, an ounce and half,

Essence of lemons, thirty drops.

Make it a liniment.

NEPHRITIS.

## N E P H R I T I S.

**A** Nephritis, is an inflammation of the kidneys.

The *causes*. The same as of other inflammations: whatever plugs up the extremities of the capillary arteries; a wound, a bruise, an abscess, a tumor, lying too long on one side, a calculus, whatever hinders the free passage of the urine; whatever forces the thicker parts of the blood into the urinous canals, as riding hard, running, leaping, or a plethora.

The *diagnostics*. Difficulty of, or uneasiness in making urine, sensation of heat in making it, perpetual inclination to make it, total suppression of it, a fever, numbness of the thigh from an affection of the psoas muscle, bilious vomiting, costiveness. A Nephritis is always attended with a fever; a calculus not always. In a Nephritis the pain is continual; in the calculus, or fit of the stone, the pain intermits.



The *prognostics* are much the same as in other inflammatory disorders. To Persons in years, it is most commonly fatal; the patient often falls into a *tabes dorsalis*; sometimes a *schirrus* is formed; sometimes it is succeeded by a palsy, or incurable lameness, a dropsy also, and atrophy. If a calculus is formed from the concretion of the fabulous *faburra* too bulky to pass through the ureter, the case is helpless, unless it is extracted by the knife; this operation has been performed, but never with success, as the author ever knew or heard of.

The *cure*, as in other inflammations, *venæ-section*, diluting liquors, emollients, anti-phlogistics, clysters, fomentations, lenient cathartics, *femicupia*: if the pain is very excruciating, opiates, diuretics, nitre excepted, are improper at first; for common drink, the *emulsio communis*.

Take of Syrup of marsh-mallows,

Oil of olives, of each an ounce,

Volatile aromatic spirit, two drachms,

Pure water, seven ounces, by agitation,

Make an emulsion, three spoonfuls to be taken every fourth hour.

O

Take

Take of Venice turpentine, half an ounce,

The yolk of two eggs,

Pure water, five ounces,

Linseed oil, three ounces,

Oil of turpentine,

Oil of aniseeds, of each a drachm,

Syrup of marsh-mallows, two ounces.

A clyster.

As soon as bloody water is evacuated, give honey and oil of olives, of each an ounce, for a draught, and let twenty drops of balsam of Capivi, or of balsam of Peru, be taken on sugar thrice a day.

Take of Venice soap, four scruples,

New milk, two ounces,

Pure nitre, a scruple,

Syrup of marsh-mallows,

Rectified spirits of wine, of each two drachms,

Make a draught, to be repeated twice or thrice a day.

Take of Pure nitre, a scruple,

Volatile salt of amber, ten grains,

Pure water, an ounce,

Balsamic syrup, a drachm,

A draught,

A draught, to be taken every third hour.

Take of Ointment of marsh-mallows, an ounce,

Oil of turpentine, two drachms,

A liniment, with which the loins may be anointed two or three times a day.

Take of Magnesia alba,

Sperma ceti,

Rhubarb, of each two scruples,

For six powders. Let one be taken every fourth hour, 'till the body is sufficiently open.

Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,

Pure water, a pint,

Diuretic salt,

Syrup of marsh-mallows, of each half an ounce,

A mixture, of which let three spoonfuls be given every three hours.

Take of Chio turpentine (dissolved in the yolk of an egg) half a drachm,

Sperma ceti,

Diuretic salt; of each two scruples,

Pure water, an ounce and a half,



A draught, to be taken every fourth hour.

Take of Gum arabic,

Sperma ceti, of each a drachm and half,

Diuretic salt, one drachm ;

For six powders, one of which should be taken every two hours.

If the pain is exceeding great, as it often is, give three grains of the thebaic extract.

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#### ULCER in the KIDNEYS or BLADDER.

THE *cause* of an ulcer in the above-mentioned is either a calculus, or something corrosive received into the stomach, venereal virus, scorbutic diathesis, contusion, inflammation, obstruction, or erosion.

The *diagnostics* of an ulcer in the kidneys are bloody urine, of a foetid smell, with scales in it ; sanious, or purulent urine.

urine. In this case rhubarb in small doses frequently given is an admirable medicine.

Ulcers in the bladder are more dangerous, and often attended with unsupportable agonies. In an ulcer of the kidneys, the urine is discharged without much difficulty or uneasiness; is reddish, often bloody, with caruncles in it. In an ulcer of the bladder, the difficulty of making urine is very great, the pain dreadful; less blood, but large quantities of purulent matter accompany the urine, especially in women.

The *prognostics*. In habits of body that are cacochymic, phthifical, or to persons in years they are always dangerous and often mortal.

The *cure* is the same. Lenient purges should be given, as cassia, rhubarb, manna, and tamarinds, for the alvine tube must be kept open; small mead, cooling ptisans, a milk diet, lime-water, and twenty drops of balsam of Capivi on sugar morning and night should by no means be omitted. Injections of milk, lime-water. If the pain is excruciating (as in all other disorders without exception) the use of opiates is demanded; give two scruples of olibanum, and three, or

even four grains of Theban extract, made into a bole with balsam of Peru.

Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,

Soap, one ounce,

Gum guaiacum,

Jalap, of each two drachms,

Balsam of Capivi, enough to make an electuary,

The bigness of a nutmeg to be taken morning and night.

Take of Succotrine aloes, one drachm,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony,

Filings of iron, of each half a drachm,

Yellow emetic mercury, a scruple,

Balsam of Peru, enough to make into twenty-four pills,

Two to be taken night and morning.

Take of Guaiacine balsam, six drachms,

Balsam of Peru, two drachms,

A bottle of drops. A tea-spoonful to be taken twice a day.

The solution of sublimate, See Lues.

Women declining into the vale of years are exceeding liable to internal latent ulcers, which greatly resemble ulcers  
in



in the bladder, with respect to the violence of the pain, and indeed every other symptom, the pus in urine excepted. The subsequent electuary has always answered my expectation in removing that troublesome complaint, and I would recommend it to those who are tormented with pain in parts contiguous to the neck of the bladder.

Take of Elecampane, an ounce,

Sweet fennel seeds, half an ounce,

Black pepper,

Balsam of Peru, of each two drachms,

Honey, enough to make an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg morning and night. If the body is costive, add two drachms of jalap to it. Let her also take twenty drops of balsam of Capivi, twice a day, upon brown sugar.

STONE.

## S T O N E.

**T**HE Stone, or human calculus, originates from a concretion of fabulous saburra, chiefly owing to the ochreous matter or selenites in water ; from the heat of the body, laxity of the fibres, or predisposition of the fluids to deposit this earthy matter ; perhaps from a deficient attraction among their own particles to preserve its suspension : it is often formed into a hard friable substance.

The *causes*. The water we drink seems to be the chief cause, which has more or less of an earth in it, and if you please, something of a petrifying quality ; claret, ale and all those liquors which ferment strongly in the stomach, and consequently occasion the terrestrial parts of the urine to cohere together ; the appulse of an acid gas, obstruction or coarctation of the urinary canals.

The *diagnosics*. A sensation of numbness, torpidity, or painful pressure in the thigh ; nausea, frequent retchings ;  
the

the urine thin, bloody, small in quantity, excreted with great uneasiness, or totally suppressed ; pain in the glans penis, tenesmus.

*The prognostics.* If both ureters are at once affected, if the urine is totally suppressed, the extremities cold, or the urine continues bloody after the fit is over, the disorder will be of long continuance, and most probably terminate in death. In ancient persons it is always very dangerous.

*The cure.* This dreadful disease authorises us to summon every possible and immediate medical assistance, as clysters, purges, anti-emetics, *oil of aniseeds*, terebinthines, fat broths, fomentations, opiates, the catheter, lithotomy. To prevent a return, equal quantities of lime-water and butter-milk should be drank at meals, and for a constancy to the quantity of three pints in a day. Claret, malt, and all fermenting liquors should be abstained from. Spirits of all sorts (having passed the state of fermentation) diluted with water are no ways prejudicial. Those who swallow immense loads of soap, should be apprised of the terrible consequences which may in time result from such a practice, viz. a putrescent acrimony with all its horrors. *Incidit in Scyllam qui*



*vult vitare Charybdin.* Half an ounce of live quicksilver may be swallowed every day for several weeks.

Take of Balsam of Peru (dissolved in the yolk of an egg) two drachms,

Common decoction for a clyster, five ounces,

Oil of olives, two ounces,

Theban tincture, two drachms,

A clyster.

This will always give immediate ease in the most racking pain. About twenty years ago I knew an old gentleman who was exceedingly tormented with the stone cholic; for some other disorder, I have forgot what, he took Turlington's balsam, and to his no small amazement soon found himself relieved from his fit; on every succeeding attack he had recourse to the same medicine, and always found the same effect from it. I have tried every ingredient alone of which this balsam is composed without success, nor could I ever find out to what combination the effect is owing; but that it gives ease more expeditiously than an opiate is a most notorious fact, to which I have been an eye-witness numberless

less times ; twenty drops should be given on sugar every five minutes 'till the pain ceases, which is generally much abated by the second dose. Let me not be condemned for countenancing a quack medicine, when so many of my brethren scruple not to prescribe an empirical powder much more precarious in its operation, and by no means superior to the emetic tartar kept in the shops.

Take of Bitter purging salt, two ounces,

Water, six ounces,

Fœtid tincture, half an ounce,

Thebaic tincture, two drachms,

A clyster.

Take of Balsam of Peru,

☞ Oil of aniseeds, of each two drachms,

Mucilage of gum arabic, seven ounces,

Tincture of jalap, an ounce,

A mixture ; three spoonfuls to be taken morning and night, or, as there is occasion.

To preserve the patient from returns of this horrid distemper,

☞ Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,

Venice soap, one ounce,

Grains of Paradise,

Jalap, of each two drachms,

Balsam of capivi, enough to make an electuary.

Dose, the size of a walnut, morning and night. Several have I seen who for many years had not been one moment free from pain, perfectly cured by this electuary; a relation of what it has performed in a vast variety of cases, would be enough to shock the belief of the most credulous.

Take of Liquorice root, three ounces.

Boil in a quart of water; half a pint to be drank twice a day.

Take of Socotrine aloes,

Affa foetida, of each two scruples,

Filings of iron, half a drachm,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony,

Calomel, of each a scruple,

Balsam of Peru, sufficient for Pills,

Number thirty-two; two to be taken morning and night.

OPHTHALMY



## OPHTHALMY and Disorders of the EYES.

**A**N Ophthalmia is an inflammation of the eye, or adnata, with redness, swelling, and discharge of a hot water, or matter. It is commonly divided into *dry* and *moist*; when slight, called Phlogosis; if there be some redness in the albugineous coat, Taraxis; when the eye-lids can scarcely be closed, Chumosis; if accompanied with a profuse discharge of red rheum, Epiphora. Suffusio, Phlyctæna, Glaucoma, Hypopyon, Albugo, and Pterygium, are all to be treated in the same manner.

The *cause*. Some irritation, or the same with that of other inflammations.

The *diagnostics*. It is known by the red color of the tunica conjunctiva: the other disorders of the eyes, by a distillation of bloody acrid rheum from their angles; a scalding water; a collection of matter, or water in vesicles under the cornea; films, motes, specks, &c.

The

The *prognostics*. If it continue long, it sometimes turns to a glaucoma, or cataract, or gutta serena (which requires the internal use of medicines, as mercurials, &c.) In general, it is not difficult of cure.

The *cure*. If the eyes are glued up in a morning, let them be bathed with warm milk. If the patient is plethoric, bleed ; then give a gentle purge, such as,

Take of Glauber's salt, an ounce,

Volatile salt of amber, seven grains,

Pure water, three ounces,

Syrup of buckthorn, half an ounce,

A purging potion. Issues are exceeding serviceable, vesicatories likewise applied to the temples, behind the ears, or to the nape of the neck ; no small advantage will result from a seton, which should be cut perpendicularly, and not horizontally, as is the usual custom. Sternutatories should not be omitted, as,

Take of White hellebore root, a scruple,

Florentine orris root, ten grains,

Euphorbium, three grains,

Of this powder let a pinch be taken, as if it were snuff, every night, after getting into bed.

If a hot water distils from the eyes, or if films, specks, &c. appear, the subsequent eye-water is, I believe, not to be excelled; the eye may be washed with it three or four times a day, and as much of it allowed to be worked in the eye, by frequent winking, as can be well borne.

☞ Take of Sugar of lead, a scruple,  
White vitriol, fifteen grains,  
Spirits of wine camphorated, an ounce,

A collyrium. Or, if that gives too much pain,

Take of Extract of lead, seven drops,  
Rose water, an ounce,

A collyrium, to be used three or four times a day. Or,

Take of Extract of lead, seven drops,  
Thebaic tincture,  
Lime water, of each half an ounce,

A collyrium.



If the sight is very weak, and is daily impairing, put a drachm of allum into the white of an egg, let them be well whisked up together, and smear the eye-brow and eye-lid with it every night. If there be a scorbutic acrimony in the fluids,

Take of Æthiop's mineral, an ounce and half,

Gum arabic, half an ounce,

Honey, enough to make an electuary,

The dose, the size of a nutmeg morning and night.

In opthalmies proceeding from a scrophula (which by the way. most opthalmies do) the bark is not only a certain but expeditious remedy, as,

Take of Peruvian bark, an ounce,

Extract of liquorice, two drachms,

Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

The size of a walnut to be taken morning and night.

When the edges of the eye-lids look red and raw, or discharge,

Take

☞ Take of White precipitate, a scruple,

Simple ointment, an ounce,

Smear them with a feather dipt in it night and morning.

A cataract requires the operation, viz. depression or extraction of the chrySTALLINE lens.

If a gutta serena is curable, it must be helped by electricity, sternutatories, the dry vomit, the aluminous egg application, and such alteratives as,

Take of Mercurial pills,

Camphire, of each a drachm,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony, half a drachm,

Guaiacine balsam, enough to make them into pills,

Number thirty-two ; two to be taken night and morning.

Q

CATARRHAL

## CATARRHAL FEVERS.

**C**ATARRHAL Fevers are generally flow and mild, exacerbated toward evening, when the equilibrium of the atmosphere is destroyed; they are accompanied with pains in the joints, stoppage of the nose, deafness, head-ach, cough and listlessness, &c. They are commonly called colds. They produce, when neglected, innumerable disorders, as they originate from an abatement or obstruction of insensible perspiration; if that perspirable matter is retained in the circulation which ought to have been thrown out of the body, it may soon putrify, and occasion fevers *pessimi moris*. Hence observe how hazardous and frequently fatal (though little suspected) that custom must be of bleeding for a cold, when no plethora subsists. To attenuate viscidities few medicines are preferable to the salt of wormwood. When a cold is first taken, an opiate (which acts by effecting  
a tem-



a temporary plethora) if not costive, will often remove it like an amulet, as,

Take of the Thebaic tincture, thirty drops,

At bed time. Or,

Take of Styrax pill, five grains,

Emetic tartar, one grain,

A pill to be taken at going to bed.

If the symptoms are very alarming, give two grains of the emetic tartar, well rubbed with ten grains of white sugar, for a vomit, drinking nothing during the operation. Either of the following are exceeding efficacious in the removal of a cold, and far preferable to bleeding :

Take of Salt of wormwood, a drachm and half,

Pure water, seven ounces,

Volatile aromatic spirit, half an ounce,

Balsamic syrup, two drachms,

A mixture. Let three spoonfuls be taken every fourth hour.

Take of Æthiop's mineral, an ounce and half,  
 Crude antimony,  
 Gum guaiacum, of each two drachms,  
 Honey, enough to make an electuary.

The quantity of a nutmeg to be taken morning and night.

N. B. Those who value their health, and are liable to colds, should lie with very light covering in bed. One pair of blankets is at all times sufficient.

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*Cough, Suffocating Catarrh, and Hoarseness.*

A Cough is a convulsive motion of the diaphragm, generally owing to an irritation of the larynx. By chewing a hard crust, or piece of sea-biscuit, on going to bed, the glands will be emptied of that acrid saliva wherewith they are distended, and consequently that teasing defluxion will be prevented, and that tickling sensation which is so troublesome

some in the night. A plaister of Burgundy pitch between the shoulders will wonderfully relieve a cough ; it should be worn continually for some weeks. If the thyroid gland is swelled so as to render deglutition difficult, apply a poultice of bread and milk to the throat, and a vesicatory to the neck.

The suffocating catarrh is an affection of the larynx, when the aspera arteria is irritated, and the glottis constricted, so as to endanger immediate suffocation. If plethoric, bleed : let the face be held over the steam of boiling milk ; a bread and milk poultice be wrapped round the throat, and give an emetic\*, opiates and agglutinants.

A hoarseness is an affection of the aspera arteria, caused by an effusion of a thin acrid lymph, or an abrasion of its internal mucus. Half a pint of new milk, with half a pound of suet dissolved in it, and drank warm, will almost instantaneously relieve, but is by no means a pleasant draught.

\* Take of Emetic tartar, ten grains,

Pure water, an ounce,

Of this let a tea-spoonful be taken every half hour 'till the effect is produced.

 Take



☞ Take of Balsam of sulphur, five drachms,  
Oil of aniseeds, one drachm.

Of this bottle of drops, let ten be taken on sugar three or four times a day. It is an admirable medicine for a cough, as well as for a hoarseness.

To return to a cough. Nettle-seeds mixed up with honey into an electuary, is no despicable remedy; the size of a nutmeg to be taken night and morning. Or a spoonful of the expressed juice of turnips twice a day, sweetened with as much sugar-candy as will render it palatable. Or, two ounces of garlic, infused in a bottle of mountain-wine, a glassful morning and night. Or (which exceeds every thing else) balsam of Capivi, an ounce; of these drops take twenty on sugar twice or thrice a day. Or, balm of Gilead. Twenty drops of tincture of cantharides in a glass of water night and morning, or any of the following medicines, the efficacy of which may be depended on.

☞ Take of Flowers of sulphur, an ounce and half,  
Elecampane, six drachms,  
Locatelli's balsam, half an ounce,

Myrrh,

Myrrh, two drachms,

Oil of aniseeds, a drachm,

Balsamic syrup, enough for an electuary.

The bigness of a nutmeg twice or thrice a day.

☞ Take of *Affa foetida*,

Gum ammoniac, of each a drachm,

Squills powdered, ten grains,

Oil of aniseeds, as much as is sufficient.

Make twenty-four pills, two to be taken night and morning.

Take of Elixir of vitriol, twenty drops,

Night and morning. If costive,

☞ Take of *Affa foetida*,

Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each two scruples,

Squills dried, ten grains,

Oil of amber, enough for pills,

Twenty-four : two to be taken night and morning. Or,

Take

Take of Asfa foetida, a drachm,

Filings of iron, two scruples,

Kermes mineral,

Socotrine aloes, of each one scruple,

Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Twenty-four.

Take of Conserve of orange-peel, half an ounce,

Oil of olives,

Balsamic syrup, of each an ounce,

Spirit of vitriol, enough to make it gratefully acid.

A linctus ; a tea-spoonful to be taken at pleasure.

Take of Coltsfoot-flowers, an ounce and half,

Horehound,

Hyssop, of each half an ounce, boil a little in a quart  
of water,

Extract of liquorice, two drachms,

Make a mixture, of which a tea-cupful may be drank thrice  
a day.



Take of Bark, six drachms,

Extract of liquorice, two drachms,

Myrrh, one drachm,

Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a chefnut, twice a day.

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### PERIPNEUMONIA GNOTHA.

**T**HE Bastard Peripneumony, or Humoral Asthma, is a disease very different from the true Peripneumony, and owing to a redundance of serum in the lungs, which are overflowed, as it were, with a cold pituita: this phlegm stagnating in the extremities of the capillary branches of the pulmonary artery, produces effects very similar to those of a *real* inflammation, though the necessary discrimination is to be made with great facility.

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The

The *causes*. A deficiency of vital heat ; diminution of the vis vitæ ; redundancy of serum ; teneritude of the muscular fibre, indolence or inactivity, preceding disorders, profuse evacuations, whatever puts too speedily in motion that which stagnates in the lungs.

The *diagnostics*. The patient is at first seized with a sudden coldness and rigor, and loses his strength very fast ; pallid countenance, sensation of weariness, lassitude, shortness of breath, spasmodic constriction of the lungs, a slight hectic fever, ropiness of the saliva, anxiety about the præcordia, swelled ancles, increasing debility, a teasing cough, anorexia.

The *prognostics*. It is a very fallacious distemper. Sometimes it terminates (and very often, in cachectic habits) in sudden and unexpected death. It is always attended with danger, for there is no disorder of which more persons die ; perhaps every one is peripneumonic for a few minutes at least before a natural death, because the blood that is propelled from the right ventricle of the heart, from the declension of muscular motion, cannot then pass through the  
anfractuous

anfractuans angustiae of the lungs, without occasioning that anhelous respiration.

The cure. It is unnecessary to say that in this case phlebotomy would be deleterious. For common drink give the pectoral decoction, with large quantities of hydromel; vesicatories of no small dimensions are necessary, and should be frequently repeated. A seton should be made on the side of the sixth vertebra of the neck, in a perpendicular form; change of air is of considerable utility, though even to one no better than that which the patient was in before; acids may be given with advantage, for the generally received opinion that they are inimical to the lungs, is not confirmed by experience; broths are useful. A tea-spoonful of the expressed juice of garlic may be administered night and morning with great advantage. The dry vomit must not be omitted, as,

☞ Take of Blue vitriol,

Emetic tartar, of each seven grains,

For three powders; one to be taken twice or thrice a week, in the morning fasting; let the patient strain, without

R 2

drinking



drinking any thing till some yellow or greenish matter is ejected, and then if the nausea does not go off, take half a glass of brandy ; if *that* should be thrown up, a repetition of it will soon settle the stomach.

☞ Take of Balsam of Capivi, an ounce,

A bottle of drops.

Of these let twenty be taken on sugar night and morning. Whatever other medicines are used, *this* ought not to be dispensed with. Diuretics are singularly serviceable, and one that will give place to no other is,

☞ Take of Tincture of cantharides, an ounce.

A tea-spoonful to be taken night and morning.

Lenient cathartics are absolutely necessary, which should be repeated according to the strength of the patient, as,

Take of Rhubarb, a drachm,

Gamboge, fifteen grains,

Simple syrup, enough for twelve pills,

Three

Three or four to be taken every morning, one at a time, at an hour's distance each.

Take of Extract of cassia, an ounce,

Four figs,

Liquorice root,

Senna leaves, of each two drachms,

Boiling water, four ounces,

Infuse and strain for a purging draught. Or the following, which is a very elegant one :

Take of Senna leaves, three drachms,

Lemon peel, two drachms,

Soluble tartar, ten grains,

Pectoral decoction, four ounces,

Let it be poured boiling hot on the ingredients, and when cold strain for a purging potion.

Take of Rhubarb, five scruples,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony, one scruple,

Balsam of Capivi, enough to make into pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken once or twice a day.

For persons upwards of fifty,

Take of Gum ammoniac, two drachms,

Squills, fifteen grains,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night. See cough, and the following.

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## A S T H M A.

**A**N Asthma is a difficult and laborious respiration, owing to the compression, coarctation, or obstruction of the pulmonary vessels, and is either continual or periodical.

The *cause* of a *continual* asthma is a compression of the veins, bronchial vessels, pulmonary vesiculæ or nerves ; this may be occasioned by a hydrops pectoris, empyema, phlegmon, abscess, vomica, tubercles, polypus in the blood-vessels,



vessels, coagulation of the blood itself, corpulence, gibbosity, adhesion of the lungs to the pleura, emphysematous tumours of them, inflammation of the stomach.

The *cause* of a *periodical* asthma, is a compression of the vessels and bronchial vesiculæ, owing to a slow halitus, or acid gas, which impedes the course of the nervous influence along the par vagum, and in some measure expels it, not leaving a sufficiency of vital heat to distend the bronchial vesiculæ to their usual extent ; this appears sooner or later, as the fermentation in the stomach is sooner or later performed, as I have observed in numbers of instances. It commonly succeeds other disorders, as an intermittent, variolæ, the measles, catarrh, peripneumony, cacochymy, hysterics, and unnecessary phlebotomy, or a sudden change of the non-naturals, especially of the air : It seems not to be an idiopathic disease.

The proximate *cause* of both is a spasmodic constriction, coarctation, or irritation of the organs of respiration.

The *diagnostics* appear from what has been observed above. A difficult respiration, when the breath is drawn oftener and quicker than usual, is called Dyspnœa. A frequent and

large

large respiration, when the diaphragm and intercostal muscles are violently agitated with snorting or wheezing, is termed an asthma. The greatest difficulty of breathing, when the patient cannot fetch his breath without sitting upright in bed, and even then not without the vehement and operose working of the muscles of the breast and scapula, is nominated orthopnoea.

*The prognostics.* A plethoric asthma is easily cured, requiring only the discreet use of phlebotomy or cupping. A spontaneous diarrhoea is an exceeding good sign. If it is inveterate, or if the patient is advanced in years, the case is difficult. If pus is formed, it forebodes convulsions, a phthisis, or dropsy. If owing to another disease, it requires the same treatment with the respective disorder.

*The cure.* The diet should be taken from those things which are easiest of digestion, and consequently ought to be of animal substance, which will not only digest with greater facility, but ten times sooner than any of the vegetable tribe. Milk should be taken for breakfast and for supper; broth, spoon-meats, and much the same regimen is requisite as in the phthisis. A clear, dry air, exercise, clysters, a  
seton

seton cut in a perpendicular direction, issues, a Burgundy pitch plaister between the shoulders, perpetual vesicatories, frequent emetics, cathartics, the balsam of Capivi, and the dry vomit. See cough, and peripneumonia gnotha.

The asthmatic pills :

✍ Take of Asfa foetida, a drachm,

Filings of iron, two scruples,

Socotrine aloes,

Kermes mineral, of each one scruple,

Oil of aniseeds, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night. Or, if very costive,

✍ Take of Asfa foetida,

Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each two scruples,

Oil of aniseeds, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night. Or, the ammoniac pills in the last article.



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The asthmatic pills :

☞ Take of *Assa foetida*, a drachm,

Filings of iron, two scruples,

Socotrine aloes,

Kermes mineral, of each one scruple,

Oil of aniseeds, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night. Or, if very costive,

☞ Take of *Assa foetida*,

Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each two scruples,

Oil of aniseeds, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night. Or, the ammoniac pills in the last article.

If opiates may be given with safety, viz. if the body is sufficiently open, to render the nights more tolerable, and to procure a truce,

Take of Styrax pill, one drachm,

Make into twelve pills, one to be taken at bed-time.

☞ Take of Emetic tartar, three, four, five, or more grains,

As the case requires, for a vomit, to be taken fasting, and drinking nothing after it, for two or three hours; to be repeated every week or ten days.

The following electuaries have been extremely serviceable :

Take of Flowers of sulphur, an ounce and half,

Locatelli's balsam, half an ounce,

Oil of aniseed, a drachm,

Balsamic syrup, sufficient to make an electuary,

Dose, the bigness of a nutmeg, every morning and evening, keeping the body open with rhubarb. Or,

Take



Take of Bark, an ounce,  
Extract of liquorice, three drachms,  
Balsamic syrup, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg to be taken twice or thrice a day. Or,

Take of Flowers of sulphur, an ounce,

Extract of liquorice,

Elecampane, of each half an ounce,

Oil of aniseeds, two drachms,

Balsamic syrup, as much as is sufficient :

Of this electuary, let the bigness of a walnut be taken night and morning.

#### AUXILIARIES.

Take of Shavings of saffrafras,

Coltsfoot flowers,

Maidenhair, of each equal parts,

Of this, half an ounce may be made into tea, to be drank instead of common tea, sweetened with honey.

Take of Onions, two ounces,

Boil in a pint and half of water to a pint, strain, and let a tea-cupful sweetened to the taste be taken two or three times a day. Raw onions, with plenty of pepper and salt, may be eaten every day to great advantage.

Take of Conserve of mallow flowers, half an ounce,

Balsamic syrup,

Oil of olives, of each an ounce,

Spirit of vitriol, twenty drops,

A linctus, to be taken at pleasure.

Take of Tincture of cantharides, an ounce,

Of these drops a tea-spoonful may be taken twice a day.

Take of Colt's-foot flowers, an ounce,

Boil in a pint and half of water to a pint; squeeze them dry. Let this pint be drank every day very warm, holding the face first over the steam, while boiling hot, 'till cool enough to drink.

N. B. Half an ounce of horehound may be added.

CEPHALALGIA.

## C E P H A L A L G I A.

**C**ephalalgia is a sensation of pain in the head.

Cephalæa is an inveterate (and supposed hereditary) pain in the head.

Hemicrania is a pain in the middle of the head. They are all owing to the same causes, and require the same method of cure.

The *causes*. Little acrid particles of blood or lymph, which vellicate or distend the membranes or nervous fibrillæ; strong liquors drank too profusely, spasms, staying too long in the heat of the sun, immoderate exercise, intense study, fermentation in the stomach, acid gas or halitus, a deficiency of heat in the encephalon, a plethora, costiveness.

The *diagnostic* is sufficiently obvious.

The *prognostics*. If symptomatic, it is to be profligated by the removal of that disease which is the occasion of it.

The



The more superficial the easier it is to be cured; the deeper, the sharper, and if of long continuance, with the more difficulty. If accompanied with a vertigo, noise in the ears, strabismus, or deafness, if not removed, it will terminate in an apoplexy, epilepsy, or hydrocephalus internus. If attended with a coma, it will end in a lethargy; if with æruginous vomiting, in a mania. A defluxion of blood or pus from the nostrils often cures it. Turbid urine indicates a continuance of the malady. If the pain strikes into the orbits, or the patient be advanced in years, the cure is very problematical.

The cure. If it proceeds from the stomach, give an emetic. If from a plethora (which a chronical head-ach rarely, if ever does) bleed or cup. If from a redundancy of acrid serum, which is a usual concomitant, if not the procatactic cause, aloetic purges are the surest and most expeditious remedy. Vesicatories, setons, cephalic plaisters, sternutatories, diaphoretics and opiates, are all indicated, and may be made use of according to the discretion of the practitioner. A blister may be laid over the whole head, and kept on 'till it comes off of itself, which will be on the fourth or fifth day.

day. For common drink valerian tea is excellent. Sitting for a few minutes with the feet immersed in warm water will sometimes yield instantaneous relief. Ginger is the most excellent of all nervines ; in this and all other disorders affecting the nerves, it may be given to two scruples, twice or thrice a day : few *fits* will withstand its power. Slight electrical shocks will often remove it. If external, which may be known by increasing on pressure, dissolve a drachm of camphire in half an ounce of æther, and pouring a little into the palm of the hand, let it be applied to the pained part. If an old and crabbed case, give the dry vomit, as,

Take of Blue vitriol,

Emetic tartar, of each two grains and a half.

Let this powder be taken in half a spoonful of water, in the morning fasting, without drinking any thing during the operation : but when yellow or greenish matter is thrown off from the stomach, half a glass of brandy may be taken to remove the nausea : if that is rejected, as it will be, if there is more corrupted bile to be thrown up, a repetition in a few minutes after will soon settle the stomach. Plaisters of

Burgundy pitch may be applied to the temples, or behind the ears. A fomentation for the whole head of equal quantities of theban tincture and vinegar, will often give ease; or equal quantities of spirits of wine camphorated, compound spirits of lavender and vinegar. An errhine may be given to snuff up the nose of brandy and vinegar equal quantities; or of spirits of wine camphorated. Sternutatories ought not to be omitted, as white hellebore root, or asarabacca leaves. A pinch of either (in powder) to be taken, as if it were snuff, every night after getting into bed.

If the pain is very excruciating in the night, thirty or forty drops of the thebaic tincture may be taken at bedtime, and the next morning a draught given, composed of an ounce of aloetic alkaline wine, and half an ounce of cinnamon water.

Habitual head-achs, arising from constipation of the bowels, soon yield to the following pills: they are indeed a noble medicine, and too much cannot be said in their praise. The author has ordered them many thousands of times and they never disappointed his expectations.



☞ Take of Socotrine aloes, one drachm,

Kermes mineral,

Filings of iron, of each half a drachm,

Guaiacine balsam, enough to make into pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken night and morning,  
if they do not open the body too much. Or,

Take of Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each a drachm,

Kermes mineral,

Calomel, of each a scruple,

Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Thirty-two ; two to be taken every night.

☞ Take of Salt of wormwood, half an ounce,

Water, a pint.

A tea-cupfull night and morning.

If the patient is not costive, and the pain returns periodically, give the bark.

T

EPILEPSY.

## E P I L E P S Y.

**A**N Epilepsy is a sudden prostration of the vis vitæ, with a violent concussion of the muscles, and loss of the senses both external and internal. It is called catalepsy, caducus, catoche; morbus sacer, comitialis, and Herculeus.

The *causes*. A bad conformation of the encephalon; corruption, or erosion of the meninges; quicksilver, by what means soever conveyed to the brain; an increased flux of serum into the head, hydatides below the corpus callosum, violent exercise, profuse venery, strong thinking, a fright, all vehement affections of the nervous system, excruciating pain, hysterics, irritation from worms, toothing, an acrid humor, the infection of the variolæ, the obstruction of some secretion; various sorts of vapors, as the steams from liquors in a state of fermentation, or an acid gas.

The *diagnostics*. A sensation of weight in the head, or of pressure over the eyes; of heaviness in the joints, frothing

at

at the mouth, foolishness, tinnitus aurium, forgetfulness, a thin and crude urine, gnashing of the teeth, a deprivation of all feeling : paleness of the countenance, inordinate motion of the tongue, shrieks, clenched hands, sudden fall to the ground, dimness of sight ; from the violence of the paroxysms, an ejection of food, mucus, lymph, or bile : involuntary discharge of urine, semen, or excrements ; on recovery, no remembrance of what had passed ; impaired intellects.

The *prognostics*. It is either idiopathic or symptomatic. If hereditary, and a delirium supervenes after the fits, it is incurable. From the frequency of the fits arise loss of memory, dulness, stolidity, palsy, apoplexy, and death itself. An involuntary excretion of the fæces, the fits being of long duration, and the brain primarily affected, are signs that the cure will not be effected without great difficulty. If the cause is in the solids, it is irremovable. From the injuries which the nerves suffer there follow contractions, deformity and distortions. In children, when a quartan supervenes, the *fits* go off. If owing to worms they are easily curable ;



if to spasms, and properly treated, they are not very refractory.

The *cure*. In the paroxysm, let a loud noise be made in the ear, and apply spirit of salt ammoniac to the nose, or blow up the nostrils a little white hellebore, or black pepper; bathe the temples and wrists with vinegar: if the mouth can be opened, put into it fifteen or twenty drops of oil of amber on powdered sugar, or give a drachm of tincture of castor in half an ounce of strong cinnamon water. As I never saw a plethoric epileptic, I never ordered the use of the lancet for any one, nor can I think it by any means allowable. Purges are often proper, and of considerable utility, even twice or thrice a week; so are chalybeate waters, issues, setons, blisters, the cold bath, alkalis, anthelmintics, anti-hysterics, cardiacs, nervines, opiates, lancing the gums, the trepan, electricity, and the dry vomit.

The diet should be of animal food for dinner, with milk constantly for breakfast and supper: vegetables of all sorts are to be avoided, wines also, and malt liquors; spirits diluted with water may be drank with safety. Gentle and frequent

frequent exercise is absolutely necessary, change of air and amusements are not to be neglected.

☞ Take of Blue vitriol,

Emetic tartar, of each eight grains,

For three powders, one of which should be taken at least twice a week, in a morning fasting; let the patient strain, without drinking any thing, 'till he throws up some yellow or greenish matter, and if his sickness doth not go off, then take half a glass of brandy; if that should be puked, another half glass will perfectly settle the stomach. Nothing can be more mild, safe, or gentle, than one of these vomits, and I have known great numbers of persons, by whom the repetition of them was more eagerly requested than opiates have been by those who were in pain.

I shall now subjoin all the medicines which I ever used that proved efficacious in the removal of this disorder, and many hundreds of cases I have been fortunate enough to succeed in. Let it be added, that the dry vomit was never omitted, excepting in those cases which were owing to worms, or spasms, and then the following pills and drops have never

*once*

once failed to answer expectation. Of the rest, the most proper must be left to the choice of the prescriber.

☞ Take of Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each a drachm,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four; two to be taken night and morning, washing them down with a glass of water, in which put a tea-spoonful of these drops:

☞ Take of Tincture of assa foetida, two ounces,

For a bottle of drops.

Take of White hellebore, a scruple,

Ginger, ten grains,

Euphorbium, two grains,

Of this snuff let a pinch be taken every night after getting into bed.

☞ Take of Bark, one ounce,

Valerian root, six drachms,

Ginger, half an ounce,

Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

Dose,



Dose, the quantity of a walnut night and morning, washing it down with a tea-cupful of the following mixture ;

Take of Piony root,  
Mistletoe, of each two ounces,

Boil it in two pints of water to a pint ; to the colature add two drachms of salt of wormwood.

Take of The aloetic alkaline wine, an ounce,  
Strong cinnamon water,  
Tincture of wood-foot, of each half an ounce,

A draught, to be repeated as there is occasion.

Take of Valerian root, an ounce,  
Bark, six drachms,  
Factitious cinnabar, half an ounce,  
Filings of iron, a drachm and half,  
Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a walnut morning and evening, washing it down with two tea-spoonfuls of the following drops, in a glass of water :

Take

Take of Volatile tincture of valerian,

Volatile tincture of bark, of each an ounce,

For a bottle of drops.

Take of ginger, half an ounce,

To be divided into six powders, one to be taken twice  
a day.

Take of Madder, half a drachm,

A powder, to be taken night and morning. See Cepha-  
lalgia.

**FLATUS.**

## F L A T U S.

**F**latulencies are of all disorders the most common, and have, perhaps, the least attention paid to them, notwithstanding that few persons are free from some disagreeable circumstances, owing to wind, for the too rapid escape of the fixed air from vegetables eaten, proves the source of some of the worst and most crabbed chronic cases.

The *causes*. An acid gas arising from a too speedy fermentation in the stomach. It is not easy to imagine what a variety of bad consequences are produced from the detention of elastic air in the bowels. Many of these disorders are by the common people called the spleen in men and the mother in women.

The *diagnostics*. Breaking wind upwards, downwards; incessant eructations, pain in the stomach, rumbling noise in the bowels, loss of appetite, heart-burn, sour breath,

U

sensation



sensation of pent-up wind, borborygmi ; acid, or nidorous  
 belchings ; bad taste in the mouth, tumour at the pit of the  
 stomach ; swelling of the abdomen, or the right epigastre ;  
 pain in the left side, dyspnœa, head-ach, sensation of fullness  
 X after eating ; nausea, especially in the morning, and what the  
 Scotch call dry boaking ; obstructed bile, costiveness, passing  
 of worms or slime, spasms of the urinary vessels, sometimes  
 a diarrhœa, ash-coloured excrements ; in females, generally  
 an obstruction of the catamenia. It is almost an inseparable  
 concomitant of all bilious or gravelly complaints.

The *prognostics*. If of long continuance, it will require  
 some time, but no great difficulty to remove. If the wind  
 is not determined downwards, the disorder, though seem-  
 ingly cured, will return. In sanguineous habits, or if at-  
 tended with an habitual diarrhœa, it is most troublesome to  
 manage.

The *cure*. The predominant acid in the stomach is to be  
 corrected and destroyed by alkalis, emetics and eccoprotics ;  
 the wind is to be expelled by proper carminatives, nervines,  
 and cardiacs ; the alvine tube to be kept open by aloetics,  
 or antimonials : if accompanied with a diarrhœa, give the

bark, with opiates ; ginger, castor, philonium Londinense, tincture of woodfoot, and such like. A milk diet, at least morning and evening, is very adviseable. Abstinence from fruit, vegetables, malt, and other fermenting liquors, is indispensably necessary ; animal food, and spirits diluted with water may be used safely, and the warmer any liquid is drank the better. Pains, sickness, and common disorders of the stomach, are soonest removed by half a pint of boiling water, taken as hot, and as fast as it can be supped. Obstinate fixed pains in the sides and loins, of many years standing, have soon yielded to the following carminative :

☞ Take of Bay berries, six drachms,

Grains of paradise, two drachms,

Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each two scruples,

Oil of turpentine, enough to make an electuary :

The bigness of a nutmeg to be taken night and morning.

This, though not a pleasant, is a most powerful medicine, the wonderful efficacy of which I have experienced in a great many thousands of instances. Elastic air pent up in

the vessels, is often the cause of these fixed pains, as well as of rheumatic complaints (which may be known to be the cause by their being worse in bed) and of vagrant spasms. In such cases, some chalybeate water, with half as much boiling water poured on it, should be drank to the quantity of half a pint two or three times a day.

If attended with a diarrhoea,

Take of London philonium, an ounce,

Bark, six drachms,

Grains of paradise, three drachms,

Filings of iron, one drachm,

Syrup of ginger, enough for an electuary,

The quantity of a nutmeg to be taken twice or thrice a day.

The following tincture is well deserving of a place in the shops :

Take of Bay berries, two ounces,

Grains of paradise, one ounce,

Ginger, half an ounce,

Proof spirit, a pint ;

Digest



Digest without heat for three days, strain and sign the carminative tincture.

Take of The above carminative tincture,  
Volatile tincture of valerian, of each an ounce,

Two tea-spoonfuls to be taken night and morning. Or,

Take of The above carminative tincture, an ounce and half,  
Fætid tincture, an ounce,  
Oil of turpentine, half an ounce,

Of these drops also, let two tea-spoonfuls be taken night and morning.

If costive,

Take of Socotrine aloes, a drachm,  
 Precipitated sulphur of antimony,  
Filings of iron, of each half a drachm,  
Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four; two to be taken night and morning, washing them down with two tea-spoonfuls of either of the above drops. Or if not very costive,

Take

Take of Socotrine aloes,

Affa foetida,

Filings of iron, of each two scruples,

Long pepper, half a drachm,

Oil of amber, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; two to be taken night and morning,  
taking after them a tea-spoonful of the following drops :

Take of Chian pepper, or,

Long pepper powdered, half an ounce,

French brandy, a gill,

Digest without heat for three days, and filtre. Drops.

Take of Carraway seeds, three drachms,

Galangal, one drachm,

Of this powder, a tea-spoonful may be taken occasionally  
(when much oppressed with wind) in a glass of water, with a  
tea-spoonful of the last-mentioned drops.

To restore the overstrained fibres to their proper tone,  
after the stomach and bowels are well cleared,

Take

Take of Acid elixir of vitriol, half an ounce,

Of these drops let twenty be taken thrice a day.

It might not be amiss to propose the following questions to every patient in all chronical complaints, viz. Have you any thing of the heart-burn : any sourness or heat in your stomach ? does water ever rise in your mouth ; do you feel a nausea or sickness at the stomach in a morning ; are you oppressed with wind in your bowels : do you find ease in discharging it ; does it ever rise up in your throat, or seem to fly between your shoulders ; have you any pain in your left side, do you feel a sort of weight or pressure over your eyes, have you a sensation of fullness after eating, any hard swelling at the pit of your stomach, or on the right side of it ; do you not feel a faintness and sinking within you ; are you costive ; do you find any difficulty or uneasiness in making urine ; do you ever void any worms or slime ? A single affirmative to either of those questions will warrant the use of one of the above formulæ, mutatis mutandis, according to the circumstances of the case ; a due combination of such antispasmodics, carminatives, and antacids, keeping open the



the intestinal canal ; or restraining the alvine discharge, if excessive, will, to the no small surprise of the practitioner, in a vast variety of chronic cases, soon restore the unhappy sufferer to a perfect state of health, by removing the cause of the disease, as the writer of this has joyfully experienced in many thousands of instances every year, for these twenty years past.

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## H Y P O C H O N D R I A.

**T**HE hypochondriacal affection, melancholy, or lowness of spirits, is a sort of delirium without a fever. This disorder is commonly supposed to originate from the imagination, because it is intensely fixed on one particular object ; but, in fact, it is entirely owing to a laxity of the muscular fibres throughout the whole vascular system.

The

*The cause.* A deficiency of the vital heat in the cerebrum (a cause diametrically opposite to that which produces the phrenitis, though the effects are similar) this may be expelled therefrom by *that*, whatever it is, which dissipates the more fluid parts, and fixes the rest, as agrypnia, profuse venery, an acid gas, any excessive evacuation, particularly that of insensible perspiration; grief, disappointment, fear; the immoderate use of fallads, fruits, vegetables of all sorts, sugar, fermenting liquors, vinous or malt; indigestion, flatulencies, a sedentary life, severe studies, want of exercise, indolence.

*The diagnostics.* The absurdity of the patient's behaviour, inactivity, dislike to motion, anorexia, borborygmi, costiveness, oppression from wind, frequent sighing, anxiety about the præcordia, great dejection, prostration of the vital powers, internal sinkings, load at the stomach, palpitation of the heart, taciturnity, wild incoherent discourse, ridiculous notions, the mind being fixed on one object.

*The prognostics.* An appearance of the piles is a good sign. It is sometimes very tedious, but seldom very difficult to cure. If improper methods are used, such as bleed-

ing, &c. it often terminates in madness, blindness, an epilepsy, or apoplexy.

The *cure*. Draw off the patient's attention from his favourite object as much as possible. Exercise must be taken, generous wines may be drank freely, as mountain, red port, or madeira : or, which is more eligible, spirits diluted with water without sugar. The most nourishing diet is necessary, as milk, meat broths, particularly of pork ; strong soups, jellies, sago, vermicelli, flummery, salep, eggs ; all sorts of shell-fish ; as lobsters, crabs, oysters, &c. flat fish ; as turbot, skait, dories, plaice, &c. soups made of lampreis, or crayfish ; every species of wild fowl, especially grouse, partridges, and pigeons ; any animal food taken in large quantities, and often repeated. He should abstain from vegetables, fruit, sugar, and malt liquors. In this, or any other case arising from weakness of the solids, bleeding is inadmissible : it would be preposterous practice indeed to bleed an hypochondriac. Let the patient drink the chalybeate waters, use carminatives, very mild cathartics, corroborants, aromatics, foetids, perfumes, volatiles, sternutatories, aloetics, emetics, mercurials, blisters, setons, steel, the cold bath,



bath, infusion of horse-rhadiſh, valerian tea and ginger. See Flatus and Epilepſy, under which articles there is ſcarce one preſcription that is not of conſiderable utility in this malady. Begin the cure with the dry vomit, as,

Take of Emetic tartar,

Blue vitriol, of each ſeven grains,

For three powders, one to be taken on an empty ſtomach twice a week. Either of the under-mentioned pills may be given to vaſt advantage, as gentle cathartics; they have been often proved:

Take of Extract of black hellebore,

Aromatic pills, of each a drachm,

For twenty-four pills; two to be taken night and morning.

Take of Aſſa foetida, a drachm,

Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each half a drachm,

Balfam of Peru, as much as is ſufficient:

X 2

Pills,

Pills, number twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night. Or,

☞ Take of Socotrine aloes, a drachm,  
Filings of iron,  
Kermes mineral, of each half a drachm,  
Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two morning and night.

Take of Bark, six drachms,  
Compound powder of myrrh,  
Ginger, of each half an ounce,  
Filings of iron, a drachm,  
Tincture of cantharides, enough to make an electuary,

Of which (if not costive) the size of a chesnut may be taken morning and night.

Take of Volatile tincture of valerian,  
Volatile tincture of bark, of each an ounce,

Of

Of these drops two tea-spoonfuls may be taken in a glass of mountain-wine, twice or thrice a day.

Take of The sternutatory powder,

White hellebore root, of each a scruple,

Euphorbium, five grains,

Of this snuff let a pinch be taken every night at bed time. Errhines seem to deserve a much higher rank in practice, than they have hitherto obtained.

Take of Sour Elixir of vitriol, an ounce ;

Of these drops give twenty-five thrice a day.

APOPLEXY.



## A P O P L E X Y.

**A**N Apoplexy is a sudden abolition of the external and internal senses, and of all voluntary motion, with sometimes a full pulse and large respiration.

There are four species or degrees of it.

The first is when the patient breathes, during the paroxysm, in a manner very little different from that in perfect health.

The second, when the respiration is intermitting, anhelous and inordinate.

The third, when the breath cannot be fetched without great struggling, and nature is obliged to exert all her efforts to carry on a most operose respiration.

The fourth, when respiration for some time totally ceases.

The *cause* is that which wholly impedes the efflux of the nervous influence, into the cellular coats of the organs of  
sense

sense and motion. One would imagine that the ancients were acquainted with the real cause of it, from the derivation of its name Apoplexia from Apopletto to strike. The above effect may be produced (though it seldom is) from a plethora, and too great an accumulation of blood in the ventricles of the brain, but much more commonly proceeds from a deficiency thereof, and a redundance of viscid serum; as also may be reckoned among the predisponent causes, a large head, thick neck, corpulence, spasmodic contractions of the vessels, osseous protuberances within the cranium, acrimony of the lymph, irregularity of the non-naturals, a too liberal use of narcotics, frequent ebriety, extravasated blood: inordinate venery, especially of persons in the decline of life; the affections of the mind, an acid gas, blows, bruises and mercurial vapors.

The *diagnostics*. Preceding the paroxysm, dimness of sight, loss of memory, a sudden and acute pain in the head, swelling of the jugulars, vertigo, an unusual coldness of the extremities, supine indolence, drowsiness, oscitancy, tremblings, a strong pulse and redness of the face. The reader may observe that the signs are given indiscriminately of  
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the *sanguineous* \* and *serous* apoplexy. In the paroxysm, deprivation of all sense and motion : the eyes are closed, as if he was dead : snoring, an unequal interrupted respiration, insensibility.

The *prognostics*. The fourth degree is always fatal, because the conductors from the cerebellum are affected. If the pulse is weak, respiration difficult, the patient old, or has been seized before in the same manner ; loud snoring, cold sweats, frothing at the mouth ; these are all symptoms of a fatal tendency. An apoplexy often terminates in a palsy. A strong pulse is a sign of recovery ; if succeeding phlebotomy, the patient will undoubtedly do well.

The *cure*. Let the patient be laid on his back, with his head raised. If plethoric, bleed ; which will presently relieve by removing the cause. Hippocrates with great justice asserts, that venæsection always kills or cures in an apoplexy : the reason is evident, because it is always owing to too much, or too little blood. Proper means to be used are sternutatories, emetics, vesicatories, particularly to the feet, cathartics and corroborants.

\* I never yet saw *one* sanguineous apoplexy.



In the fit, if cacochymic (as is most commonly the case) he should be rubbed with warm flannel, or bathed with rectified spirit, or æther, and instead of phlebotomy use errhines. Bleeding is too generally performed in fits of all sorts, though there are very few instances in which they do not originate from a laxity of fibres and deficiency of blood. Those who are so busy with the lancet ought to be reminded that there is as yet no repeal of the sixth commandment.

Take of White hellebore,

Long pepper, of each a scruple,

Euphorbium, seven grains;

Let some of this powder be blown up the nose through a quill; or some tobacco smoke, or a little of the following errhine,

Take of Spirits of wine camphorated,

Brandy, of each an ounce,

Volatile spirit, half an ounce,

An errhine and fatus.

A fomentation also for the head may be used of spirits of wine, compound spirits of lavender and oil of amber, equal parts. A clyster should be injected as soon as possible, as,

Take of Tobacco,

Rue, of each a handful,

Penny-royal,

Colocynth, of each two drachms,

Boil in ten ounces of water, strain, and administer it warm.  
As soon as possible give the following purge, or vomit :

Take of Senna leaves,

Tamarinds, of each an ounce,

Rhuharb, three drachms,

Volatile salt of amber, a scruple,

Macerate in twelve ounces of boiling water. Of the colature give two ounces every hour 'till it purges sufficiently.  
Or,

Take of Emetic tartar,

Yellow emetic mercury, of each five grains,

Blue vitriol, three grains,

An emetic, drinking nothing during the operation.

An

To prevent a return, let him take two tea-spoonfuls, twice a day, of drops, consisting of equal parts of volatile tincture of valerian and compound spirit of lavender, with one of the subsequent electuaries, or pills :

Take of Valerian, an ounce,

Ginger, six drachms,

Cinnabar of antimony, two drachms,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the quantity of a nutmeg, thrice a day.

Take of Bark, an ounce,

Castor,

Galangal, of each two drachms,

Syrup of orange peel, sufficient for an electuary, as before.

Take of Socotrine aloes,

Long pepper, of each a drachm,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and evening.



Take of Gum guaiacum, a drachm and half,  
 Precipitated sulphur of antimony, half a drachm,  
 Yellow emetic mercury, a scruple,  
 Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken night and morning, washing them down with four spoonfuls of the camphire julep.

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## P A L S Y.

**A** Palsy is a laxity, or immobility of a particular part, sometimes with a deprivation of the sense of feeling. If the whole side is affected, it is called Hemiplegia.

*The cause.* A sudden shock, from some impediment, to the course of the vital heat along the nerves from the cerebrum, medulla oblongata, or spinal narrow ; which lacerates the

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the cellular tunic of the muscles destined for voluntary motion : this *may* be occasioned by a redundance (though I never met with such an instance) but is more commonly owing to a deficiency of the nervous influence, and consequently of blood.

The *diagnostics*. Flaccidity of the parts ; a diminished sensation in, or incapacity of moving them ; distortion of the muscles, tremors, wasting of the part, involuntary tears, despondency.

The *prognostics*. A partial palsy in young persons is easily curable : in children from dentition, will disappear of itself. In those who are advanced in years, or if universal, or if succeeding an apoplexy, or if it is attended with a marasmus, in these cases little hope is to be indulged. A fever, or spontaneous diarrhoea, are favourable symptoms.

The *cure*. The regimen must be indicated from the cause. If (as has been always the case with every paralytic that I have ever seen) there is a laxity of the muscular fibres and weakness of the solids, let the spina dorsi be rubbed with a warm flannel, even to an inflammation, and be bathed with oil of amber morning and night, from which  
method

method alone, and a large vesicatory to the os sacrum and lumbar region, I have recovered many who had lost the use of the lower extremities. Apply a tight ligature to the part affected ; if the leg, a strait stocking should be worn. Give Venice soap at first in pretty large quantities, and ginger and mercurials. Let the intestinal canal be kept open, and vesicatories be laid on the affected parts, or one of the following topics be used :

Take of Cantharides, an ounce and half,

Rectified spirit, a pint ;

Digest warm for three days ; a fomentation, to be used twice a day. Or,

Take of Green ointment, an ounce,

Oil of amber, half an ounce,

Oil of pepper, a drachm,

Euphorbium, nine grains,

A liniment, as before. The cold bath should be repaired to every morning ; let the patient be just covered with water, and be taken out immediately, without a second dip.



The warm bath is pernicious. Chalybeate waters should be drank, and electricity be tried, which I have sometimes known to be effectual, but oftener to fail. Emetics are extremely serviceable, particularly the dry vomit, see Epilepsy. The following medicines have answered the author's expectation :

Take of Horse-rhadiſh ſcraped,  
Mustard-feed bruised, of each two ounces,  
Galangal ſliced, half an ounce.

Infuse in a quart of boiling water close ſtopped till cold;  
half a pint to be taken twice a day.

Take of Caſſumunar,  
Ginger, of each an ounce,  
Oil of turpentine, half an ounce,  
Honey, enough for an electuary,

Of which let the bigness of a nutmeg be taken thrice a day.

Take of Precipitated sulphur of antimony,  
Socotrine aloes,  
Filings of iron, of each two scruples,

Yellow

Yellow emetic mercury, ten grains,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night, washing them down with four spoonfuls of camphorated julep.

Take of Guaiacine balsam, an ounce,

Of these drops let a tea-spoonful be taken morning and night.

 Take of Volatile tincture of guaiacum, two ounces,

Of these drops give two tea-spoonfuls in three quarters of a tea-cupful of new milk night and morning. The cold bath should not be omitted every morning, 'till well.

DROPSY.

## D R O P S Y.

**A** Dropfy is a tumor of the abdomen, from an extravasation of serum in its cavity, or a stagnation thereof in the vessels, whereby they are distended and often ruptured. This may happen in many other parts of the body, as for instance, the hydrocephalus internus, hydrops pectoris, ovariorum, &c. When the lymph is contained in little vesicles in distinct cells, like a bunch of grapes, these are called Hydatides.

There are three sorts of this disorder.

*Anasarca*, or Leucophlegmatia, when the lymph stagnates in the whole habit of the pinguidinous substance.

*Tympanites*, when the turgescence of the abdomen is owing to the rarefied vapor, ichor, or putrefied fat : this is to be known by the tightness of the skin ; the belly, if struck, sounds like a drum ; from whence its name ; no fluctuation

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of



of water can be perceived. In this case the paracentesis is sometimes fatal (nothing issuing but pus) and sometimes succeeds.

*Ascites*, when the lymph is collected in the duplicature of the peritonæum, or cavity of the abdomen: this is to be known by the quashing of water to be felt on pressure of the hypogastre.

*The cause.* Whatever occasions a stagnation of the fluids in their vessels, the lymphatics to burst, and the lymph to fall between the membranes; as acute diseases, tumors, schirri, hard drinking, stoppage of necessary or usual evacuations, profuse bleeding, especially of the corpulent, who can never well bear the loss of blood; many fat persons have been bled into dropsies.

*The diagnostics.* Swelling of the ancles, insteps, or feet; afterwards of the abdomen; dyspnœa, heaviness, thirst, lassitude, torpor, costiveness, a slow hectic fever, leanness, no sweat; the urine crude or white and small in quantity, excreted with difficulty, sometimes totally suppressed; anorexia, a teasing cough.

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The *prognostics*. If taken in time, it is easily curable ; in the worst stages a cure is not to be despaired of, if the patient will for four or five weeks persist in an entire abstinence from all liquids, a lump of sugar soaked in brandy excepted, which may be taken two or three times a day ; if this is suffered to dissolve gradually in the mouth, it will sooner appease the most intense ragings of thirst than copious draughts of water. Many have recovered of this disorder in the most helpless state, by that means, with the use of proper evacuants. If attended with a teasing cough, difficult respiration, quick pulse, prostration of strength, high-colored urine, total suppression of it, obstinate costiveness, intolerable thirst (and the patient will indulge it) abscesses, lurid spots on the thighs, the body emaciated, the countenance pallid, and of a cadaverous aspect ; these are the harbingers of death.

That the prognostics of physicians, however justly founded, are sometimes precarious, is a truth that must be confessed ; as an instance of which I beg leave to relate the following humiliating narrative. Among the infinite numbers of dropical patients who have applied to me, for these twelve

years past, I never lost one till this present year 1774, when three persons, two of which were young, after taking the medicines that I ordered, seemed to be mending very fast; their thirst was abated, the obstruction of urine removed, the tumor of the abdomen subsided, their appetite and strength increased, insomuch that I pronounced them out of danger. After a few days, on enquiry, I heard that each of them died suddenly, nor can I hazard the slightest conjecture at the cause, as permission to open the bodies was refused.

Nature, like other females, is sometimes unaccountably capricious, and when furnished with all the materials for assisting herself, will frowardly neglect the use of them; while, on the other hand, when she seems entirely subdued by a disease, and the long odds are against her, when the physician has signed the dead warrant; by one fortuitous push, unknown to, and unexpected by the physician, she will triumph over her adversary, unless the doctor should think fit to verify his prognostic by a seasonable dose.

The *cure* wholly consists in evacuating the waters which are gathered, and in preventing their collection for the future.



ture. To this end conduce cathartics, diuretics, detergents, emetics (particularly the dry vomit) diaphoretics (and the sooner the better) the paracentesis: after these, corroborants, stomachics, chalybeates and astringents.

In every stage of this disease, the region of the abdomen should be bathed with sweet oil every night and morning, and twenty drops of the balsam of Capivi be taken on sugar twice or thrice a day. The purges from which I have experienced the most extraordinary effects are :

Take of Rhubarb, two drachms,

Gamboge,

✍ Precipitated sulphur of antimony, of each half a drachm,

Yellow emetic mercury, a scruple,

Balsam of guaiacum, enough to make into pills,

Number thirty-two ; the dose, two or three morning and night. Or,

Take of Rhubarb, a drachm and a half,

Gamboge, half a drachm,

Calomel

Calomel, a scruple,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken night and morning.

Take of Gamboge a drachm,

For three powders ; one of which should be taken in the morning fasting, twice or thrice a week.

As to diuretics, no small service may be expected from the broom ashes, and the tincture of cantharides, which are far superior to any of that tribe in this case. An ounce of the expressed juice of Florentine orris root, taken twice a day, has cured several dropfies, as I have been told by a brother physician ; I never tried it. Emetics are sometimes wonderfully efficacious ; they ought not to be of the mildest sort : what I have usually given is,

Take of Yellow emetic mercury, five grains,

Blue vitriol,

Emetic tartar, of each two grains,

Let

Let this powder be taken fasting, and nothing be drank during the operation.

From the above sylloge the scientific practitioner may select that which will sufficiently answer his most sanguine expectations ; nor need he question the safety with which any of them may be administered, any more than that of the following narcotic diaphoretic, which has performed apparent miracles : the patient should lie between two blankets, instead of sheets, and the quantity of water which it will cause him to evacuate by the skin, is such as is beyond all belief, and that without the least diminution of the vis vitæ : though the removal of a load from a man's shoulders can scarcely be supposed to weaken him. This Herculean medicine is,

Take of Thebaic extract,

☞ Ipecacuanha, of each four grains,

Yellow emetic mercury, two grains,

A powder, to be taken at bed-time. Recent cases will yield to the following :

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☞ Take



☞ Take of Rhubarb, a drachm and half,  
Filings of iron, half a drachm,  
Yellow emetic mercury, ten grains,  
Tincture of cantharides, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken night and morning.

If the patient is very costive, substitute gamboge, half a drachm, instead of the iron filings.

In an anasarca, use the oil to the belly, and the balsam of Capivi inwardly. If the legs are much swelled, they should be retained in a horizontal position for the chief part of the day, and strait stockings be worn. A gentle emetic every other morning, such as five grains of ipecacuanha, and the subsequent electuary and drops, I have always found sufficient for a cure :

Take of Conserve of rosemary, an ounce and half,  
Magnesia alba, an ounce,  
Rhubarb, three drachms,  
Cinnabar of antimony, a drachm and half,

Enough for an electuary ; the bigness of a nutmeg to be taken twice a day.

Take

Take of Gamboge, half a drachm,

Sweet spirit of salt ammoniac, an ounce and half,

Of these drops let a tea-spoonful be taken night and morning, or oftener, as occasion requires.

When the cure is nearly effected, to restore the fibres to their proper tone, it may not be amiss (as on restoration from a dropfy also) to use,

Take of Bark, six drachms,

Filings of iron, one drachm,

Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg twice or thrice a day.

In a tympanites (as also in a dropfy) a salivation has sometimes succeeded. See Flatus. Perhaps it would be more eligible to use aloetic purges, corroborants, and stomachics only, and leave the rest to nature.

## J A U N D I C E.

**T**HE Jaundice is a copious effusion of the bilious fluid throughout the whole habit of the body.

The *cause* is most commonly an obstruction of the bile, from viscidities, or calculous concretions in the biliary duct, or in the liver itself, a schirrus of the liver; or, a too profuse secretion of bile.

The *diagnostics*. Of an overflowing of the bile, a yellow color of the skin, especially in the tunica albuginea of the eyes, a bad appetite, thirst, bitter taste in the mouth, bilious vomiting, pain in the stomach or bowels, tumor at the pit of the stomach, after eating increased in size and hardness; pain or swelling of the right hypochondre, periodical cholics, borborygmi, listlessness, itching in the skin, the urine and *faeces* intensely yellow.

Of



Of an obstruction of the bile the diagnostics are white or cineritious stools; obstinate constipation: the color of the skin black, nidoros eructations.

The *prognostics*. If recent, it is easily cured; a black turbid urine indicates the profligation of the disease; the yellower the skin, the easier; the blacker, the harder it is to be removed. From a schirrus in the liver, calculi in the vesica fellea, or if inflations of the hypochondres supervene, great danger is foreboded. In a state of pregnancy, it is of little consequence; parturition cures it. It sometimes terminates in a dysentery.

The *cure*. Venæsection is unnecessary. The diet should by no means be vegetable. A couple of raw eggs every morning fasting, ought not to be omitted, and if repeated three or four times a day, great advantage will result in every stage of this disorder. As to medicinal assistance, begin with the dry vomit, if there is no reason to suspect the existence of a calculus in the gall bladder, though even then it may be administered with safety, but the patient will suffer more pain; a clyster, therefore, or cathartic, may be preferable. Avoid chalybeates *at first*, for an incurable

schirrus of the liver may be the consequence of their premature use, though they are the best of medicines in some states of this disorder. For children the following is equally safe and efficacious :

Take of Chalk, ten grains,

Rhubarb, five grains,

Filings of iron one grain,

This powder may be repeated night and morning, or as there is occasion.

If a clyster is thought necessary, an ounce of soft soap, in seven ounces of the common decoction for a clyster, is an excellent one. I have been told that an ounce of the expressed juice of dandelion will cure the yellow jaundice, if taken twice or thrice a day ; I never tried it. The balsam of Capivi is of considerable utility, and castor oil. Either of the subsequent medicines may be depended on, to answer all the ends which can be desired : one of the electuaries may be made use of first, the chalybeate pills to perfect and confirm the cure. The choice must depend on the circumstances of the case and skill of the prescriber.

Take

Take of Tumerick,

Venice soap, of each an ounce,

Colombo root, a drachm and half,

Rhubarb, half an ounce,

Oil of juniper, enough for an electuary :

Dose, the size of a nutmeg, thrice a day. Or,

Take of Conserve of rosemary,

Venice soap, of each an ounce,

Magnesia alba, six drachms,

Rhubarb, two drachms,

Æthiop's mineral, half an ounce,

Balsamic syrup, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg night and morning.

Take of Socotrine aloes, a drachm,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony,

Filings of iron, of each half a drachm,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night.

Take



Take of Colombo root,

Rhubarb, of each a drachm,

\*Precipitated sulphur of antimony, half a drachm,

Tincture of cantharides, enough for pills,

Thirty-two ; two or three to be taken night and morning.

Take of Gum guaiacum, a drachm and half,

Mercurial pills,

Camphire, of each half a drachm,

Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; two to be taken night and morning. Or,

Take of Rhubarb, a drachm and half,

Calomel, a scruple,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken night and morning. Or,

\* Or, filings of iron, half a drachm, and ten grains of emetic tartar.

Take of Rhubarb, four scruples,

Kermes mineral, half a drachm,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twenty-four; two morning and night.

In habitual bilious cholics, opiates may be given at discretion. The patient is often seized with a violent pain in the stomach and right side, a nausea succeeds, with vehement retchings, 'till the calculus passes through the ductus choledochus into the duodenum, and he is then in a moment as well as if nothing had happened, 'till another calculus obstructs the passage, and then the same tragedy is acted over again. I have seen persons to whom these fits have returned thrice in twenty-four hours. The following medicines have relieved them.

Take of Salt of wormwood, two drachms,

Calx of antimony, one drachm,

Pure water, seven ounces,

Sugar, as much as you please,

Of this mixture, let three spoonfuls be taken thrice a day, with two tea-spoonfuls of the subsequent drops :

Take

Take of Volatile tincture of valerian, two ounces. Or,

Take of Colombo root, a drachm and half,

Grains of paradise,

Rhubarb, of each half a drachm,

Make into six powders, one to be taken night and morning.

VENEREAL



## VENEREAL DISORDERS.

**A** Clap is a flux of matter from the glands called lacunæ, situated in the internal parts of the urethra in men, and of the pudenda in women : the fluid which oozes from these secretory glands in their natural state, was designed to lubricate the passage and line it with a viscous mucus, which might sufficiently defend the extremities of the nerves from being irritated by the salts or acrimony of the urine. When this mucus is abraded and carried off by the attenuated discharge, occasioned by the venereal virus, which lacerates their orifices ; the urine causes an intolerable pungent, smarting, or burning sensation. Hence this disorder is called by the French, Chaudpisse.

The *cause* originates from an acid virus, or infectious miasmata acquired by impure coition ; these insinuate them-

selves into the minute mouths of the lacunæ, consequently increase their diameter, from whence a copious running of thinner matter than usual must issue. Cowper's and the prostrate gland are often affected.

This distemper is by no means a native of Europe, but was first imported by Christopher Columbus to Naples from America, and spread through that city with prodigious rapidity. Somewhat more than a year after his return from his first voyage, the French army sat down before Naples in the year 1494. The Neapolitans being distressed by a scarcity of provisions, thought it necessary to discharge the most useless persons from their town, among whom were the courtezans, who were received by the besiegers with their usual politeness to that sex: the horrible ravages which this disorder soon after made in the camp obliged the French to raise the siege; upon this account it obtained the name of the French disease, and will in all probability ever retain it, notwithstanding the umbrage France has taken at, and the repeated efforts she has made to shake off the opprobrium. It was then a new disorder, and certainly was never known in Europe before; for whatever has been advanced

to the contrary might easily be refuted: the physicians were puzzled, the people were alarmed, for it was supposed to be equally as infectious and fatal as the pestilence; neither monasteries nor nunneries were exempt from it, nor even the holy fathers of the conclave: it was to be caught (heaven bless us!) by being in the same room with an infected person, or walking on the same side of the way in the street—but, however, with due deference to the characters of the saints of those times, it cannot be taken without contact. So deplorable was the situation of affairs then, that thousands were deserted, and left to rot without the least assistance.

But it being foreign to my design to enter into the history of diseases, I shall only observe, that there is no distemper which is better understood in this enlightened age, nor any one that is with more certainty, or with greater facility to be cured, even in all its stages, and without that nauseous (though formerly reputed necessary) process of salivation.

The *diagnostics*. Three or four days (generally) after the infection is received, the running comes down with a titillating sensation; difficulty in making urine; smarting, or



scalding ; sometimes the cavernous bodies of the penis are puffed up, appear like sponge and are of an astonishing bulk ; the matter yellow, or green, which last is the worst color it can be of, because it indicates an incipient gangrene ; phymosis, when the prepuce cannot be drawn back ; paraphymosis, when it is tucked down behind the glans and cannot be brought forward to cover it ; chordee, or great pain when the penis is erected ; frequent stimulations to venery. When the infectious matter has crept into the lymphatics, and from thence is conveyed into the blood, a dry pox is the consequence ; though perhaps the miasmata are of a nature quite different from those which produce a clap : yet if the running is stopped too soon in the latter, the symptoms of the former will undoubtedly appear, which are as follows : buboes in the groin, shankers ; chrysellines, a swelled testicle : warts, mariscæ, fici, rhagades, condylomata, blotches ; green seedy excrescences, on the neck, breast, or shoulders ; ulcers in the head, eyes, nose, or fauces ; mortifications, nocturnal pains, tingling in the ears, gummi, nodes, tophi, a rash, scurf, crusts, scabs, caruncles and carnosities in the urethra, total suppression of  
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the urine, bloody urine ; atrophy, or wasting of the flesh ; erratic pains in the sides ; difficulty of breathing, especially when lying on the back ; clavus hytericus, corona veneris ; softness and rottenness of the bones. This affection of the bones is not unjustly ascribed more to the too liberal use of mercurials than to the venereal virus : thus it may be observed that the nose falls when the salivation is at its height. Many symptoms mimic venereal complaints, which are entirely owing to the lodgment of mercury in the minutest vessels ; sulphur clogs and chokes this active mineral. I have known numbers who thought that they laboured under a confirmed pox (when they were actually freed from the venereal venom) who have been not only relieved but perfectly cured of all their complaints by the use of an electuary composed only of flowers of sulphur and honey ; dose the bigness of a walnut night and morning.

The *prognostics*. If the running is imprudently tied up before the infection is extirpated, a confirmed pox is the consequence, as is often the case also from the use and frequent repetition of drastic cathartics ; for the natural elasticity or springiness of the fibres from such an irritation, will

squeeze the infection into the blood. The miasmata will sometimes float about in the fluids for several weeks, before there is any appearance of those dreadful consequences which will sooner or later in good earnest take place. It is easily cured in any of its stages, by due care and proper medicines. It is curable with much less difficulty in men than in women.

The old method of giving a calomel bolus at night and a purge next morning, is justly exploded, for it tears the constitution to pieces, is at best a precarious and often fallacious procedure: by this means many a pox has been manufactured from a very trivial injury.

Salivation is not necessary even in the worst cases, nor is there any one to be cured by it who is not much more easily to be cured without it. When eruptions appear, with all the indications of a pox, what can be more ridiculously absurd than to melt down those salts into the blood that they may pass off by the salival glands, when nature so plainly points out the method by which they ought to be expelled. The solution of sublimate hereafter-mentioned, with a proper liniment to open the pores and increase their diameter will



will enable her to throw them off by perspiration. Salivation is only the effect of an alteration made in the fluids, which alteration is as easily made without producing that disagreeable and nauseous consequence : nor will it always succeed, for I have known many who have been salivated four, yea five times without success, yet have found no difficulty in curing the same persons afterwards by much milder methods.

The *cure*. In a recent injury, the intestinal canal should be kept gently open : bleeding and violent purging are equally improper and useless ; there need be no alteration of the usual method of living, nor are the effects of the inflammation, as it is called, in the least to be dreaded. I have known several, who have been drunk every night 'till the cure was completed, without suffering any other inconvenience than an increase of the smart in making water, which must be the consequence of an increased running, an event in every other respect by no means undesirable.

Of the *stronger blue ointment* let the size of a small hazle nut be used night and morning, to be rubbed on the perinæum urethra, under the prepuce, and the inside of the thighs on  
each

each groin ; in women let it be introduced into the vagina ; if the penis is swelled, the whole of it should be smeared with it. If injections are permitted, a tea-spoonful of oil of olives may be used warm night and morning. Or a scruple of calomel in an ounce of mucilage : a tea-spoonful of this also may be used twice a day, which in most cases would alone be sufficient for a cure : however, without any injection, if the blue ointment is made use of, and one of the following formulæ is given internally, such a method is as safe, certain, expeditious, and radical, as any in the power of medicine ; this I have experienced in some thousands of instances.

N. B. Nitre is often prejudicial, and sometimes greatly increases the uneasiness in making water.

✍ Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,

Factitious cinnabar, half an ounce,

Jalap, three drachms,

Oil of sassafras, one drachm,

Balsam of Capivi, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a walnut, morning and night. Or,

✍ Take

☞ Take of Gum arabic, an ounce and half,

Æthiops mineral, an ounce,

Gum guaiacum,

Jalap, of each two drachms,

Balsam of Capivi, sufficient for an electuary,

The bigness of a nutmeg to be taken twice a day. Or,

☞ Take of Rhubarb, a drachm and half,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony, half a drachm,

Yellow emetic mercury, a scruple,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four; two to be taken morning and night.

Or,

☞ Take of Rhubarb, four scruples,

Calomel, one scruple,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twenty-four; dose, two morning and night, or at night

only. Or,

☞ Take of Sublimate, five grains,

Marine acid, ten drops,

C c

Rhubarb,



Rhubarb, a drachm and half,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twenty-four; two to be taken every night and morning.

☞ Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains, dissolve in  
Spirit of sea salt, ten drops, then add  
Compound spirits of lavender, an ounce,

For a bottle of drops; twenty to be taken in a glass of white wine\*, or milk\*, or water gruel\*, or water, morning and night, with two scruples of gum arabic in powder.

The author scarcely thinks it worth his while to observe that he was the first person (as far as he knows) who gave the sublimate inwardly: the above solution he invented after innumerable trials in the year 1753, and has used it ever since; he has ordered it some thousands of times every year, and is fully persuaded that if it is properly managed, there is no stage of this disorder, in which it will not prove efficacious, nor has it ever once deceived him. The only secret in the management of this medicine, is to give it in

\* These disguise the disagreeable taste best.

such a manner that it may act beyond the primæ viæ and not run off by stool; there is then no desirable effect which may not be expected from it. One motion in the twenty-four hours is natural, *one* may be produced by the drops; but if the patient should have more than *two* in a day, let the dose be diminished to fifteen, ten, seven, or even five drops.

In a chordee, or if a dull obtuse pain is felt in the penis, let it be soaked four or five times a day in warm milk, and apply a poultice of bread and milk at night, and give an opiate.

Chrysellines need only be snipped, and the acrid lymph will be evacuated. A proper application to heal them with is,

Take of Ointment of gum elemi, half an ounce,

Red corrosive mercury, a drachm,

To be applied twice a day.

Buboes, if soft, white, or flabby, disperse by rubbing in the bigness of a pea of the stronger blue ointment, every

C c 2

night

night and morning, at the same time taking inwardly the above drops.

If the buboes are red, hard and look angry, let the bread and milk cataplasm be applied to them till they break ; the last prescribed ointment is an excellent dressing : they may be kept open with a pea, like an issue, as long as it is thought necessary. Some indolent tumors of this sort require opening.

Shankers. The stronger blue ointment may be used night and morning ; or they may be touched with a pencil dipped in spirit of vitriol, or with this mixture :

Take of Corrosive sublimate, a drachm,

Lime water, an ounce. Or,

Dress with the following :

☞ Take of The stronger blue ointment,

Tar ointment, of each half an ounce,

An ointment, to be applied on lint night and morning.

Warts, cut off and apply a caustic ; if this is not permitted, use the stronger blue ointment. Or,

Take



Take of Simple ointment, half an ounce,

Precipitated sulphur, a drachm,

White precipitated mercury, half a drachm,

Lixivium tartar, enough for a liniment,

To be used twice a day.

Caruncles try to break with a wax candle, if that doth not  
succeed, then with an armed probe apply

Take of Red desiccative ointment, two drachms,

Ægyptiacum,

Red corrosive, of each a drachm and a half,

Yellow emetic mercury, a drachm,

Camphire, half a drachm,

An ointment. Or,

Take of Ointment of gum elemi,

Red corrosive, of each half an ounce,

Lixivium of tartar, twenty drops,

A liniment.

At the same time let not the stronger blue ointment be  
omitted, but be rubbed externally on the urethra twice a day.

Carnosities

Carnosities require the same method of treatment with caruncles.

Phymosis. Use the following lotion night and morning,

Take of Calomel, a scruple,

Lime water, an ounce.

Paraphymosis. The stronger blue ointment, and bread and milk poultice.

Crusts, scabs, blotches and ulcers in the throat, if venereal, give the above solution of sublimate, and let a little of the subsequent powder be sprinkled on a hot iron, and the fumes be received in the fauces by means of an inverted funnel, twice or thrice a day :

Take of Factitious cinnabar, two drachms,

Frankincense, two scruples,

Camphire, seven grains,

A suffiment. And

☞ Take of Corrosive sublimate, two grains,  
Marine acid, two drops,  
Mucilage of gum arabic, fix ounces,

A gargle, to be used night and morning.

If owing to the relics of the mercury (which is a very common case) give the sulphur and honey and this gargle, viz.

Take of Gum arabic, half an ounce, dissolve in  
Lime water, fix ounces,  
Honey of roses, one ounce,  
White vitriol, a scruple,

To be used twice or thrice a day.

A swelled testicle. Give immediately five grains at least (or seven) of yellow emetic mercury, for a vomit; let the patient drink nothing during the operation: apply the stronger blue ointment twice a day. Or,

Take of Camphire,  
Oil of olives,  
Oil of aniseeds, of each half an ounce,

A liniment, to be used every hour. Or,

Take



Take of Crude salt ammoniac,

Extract of lead, of each one drachm,

Pure water, five ounces,

A liniment, in which let a piece of linen rag be dipped and laid on the testicle ; when dry, to be again repeated, or kept constantly wetted, and the bread and milk poultice at night : If it is not resolved on the next morning, give a bolus of half a drachm of cathartic extract with ten grains of the mercurial pills. The warm bath will hasten its removal. It should be suspended pretty tight by a bag truss, 'till well.

A confirmed pox.

Take of Rhubarb, a drachm,

Calcined mercury, a scruple,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twenty-four ; two to be taken every night, or night and morning. Or,

Take of Gum guaiacum, two drachms,

Thebaic extract,

Calcined mercury, of each half a drachm,

Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; two to be taken every night. Or,

 Take

☞ Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains,

Sweet spirit of nitre, an ounce,

Of these drops let twenty be taken night and morning, in a glass of water.

☞ Take of Winter's bark,

Mezereon, of each half an ounce,

Boil in a gallon and half of water to a gallon; when the boiling is almost finished, add an ounce of extract of liquorice, and half an ounce of salt of wormwood to every pint. Of this apozem let half a pint be drank twice or three times a day, which, with the above drops, will remove nocturnal pains, nodes, tophs, &c.

If the nocturnal pains are very grievous, rub on the thins the size of a nutmeg of the stronger blue ointment every night, and give two of the following pills every other (or every) night, viz.

Take of Colocynth, two scruples,

Theban extract, one scruple,

Kermes mineral,  
Turbitb mineral, of each ten grains,  
Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Number twelve.

Cuticular eruptions will soon vanish, if rubbed over with the following liniment, morning and night :

Take of Pomatum, an ounce,  
Precipitated sulphur, two drachms,  
White precipitated mercury, two scruples,  
Salt of tartar, a drachm,  
Oil of saffrafras, twenty drops.

See Pfora.

The farfa and china root are said to possess wonderful virtues ; but the author, after a long series of fair trials, was so unfortunate as not to be able to discover them. If a diet-drink is requested, the following will be found of considerable utility :

Take of Shavings of guaiacum, two ounces,  
of Saffrafras, an ounce  
Winter's bark, two drachms.



Boil in fix quarts of water to a gallon, towards the end add extract of liquorice, half an ounce. Half a pint to be drank three or four times a day.

---

G L E E T.

**A** Gleet is a drain of matter from the urethra.

The *causes*. An ill-cured clap; salivation; profuse venery; a strain; laxity of the fibres.

The *diagnostics*. From the abrasion of the mucus, heat of urine; indifference to coition; pain in the back, or loins; general debility; hanging down of the testicles; lowness of spirits; loss of appetite; at going to stool, the discharge of a glairy matter, in colour and consistence like the white of an egg; the colour of that which oozes is sometimes brown and sometimes yellow, of which last colour it may continue to be (if of long duration, or in those who have been frequently injured) without any remaining infection.

*The prognostics.* If white and ropy, or thin and glairy, or if flocci appear in the urine, it is easily cured. If of long standing, it will require some time to muzzle it.--- There is no case so obstinate but may be cured by some of the subsequent medicines. It has been the malleus medicorum, yet I never met with one (though I have had great numbers who were deemed incurable) with whom I did not succeed.

*The cure.* The patient should abstain from all vegetables, acids and sugar, if the case be inveterate, all fermenting liquors, malt or vinous : spirits diluted with water are harmless. The most proper regimen is---rising early in the morning ; gentle exercise ; the cold bath, just plunging over head and ears (every morning) and coming out immediately without taking a second dip, or remaining one moment in the water ; any animal food, particularly pork, pigeons, partridges, growse, flat fish, shell fish, eggs, jellies : for breakfast and supper, milk. From the medicinal classes ; detergents, astringents, corroborants, chalybeates, balsamics, fustus, injections, and the dry vomit. I singlafs chewed to the quantity of half an ounce a day and the saliva swallowed is

an excellent auxiliary. The glans penis should be frequently washed : much depends on cleanliness. The following formulæ are such as have proved successful, and I never used any other :

☞ Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,

Olibanum, two drachms,

Filings of iron, one drachm,

Cantharides, a scruple,

Balsam of Capivi,

Enough for an electuary. The bigness of a chefnut to be taken night and morning.

Take of Bark, an ounce,

Gum guaiacum,

Olibanum, of each half an ounce,

Tincture of cantharides,

Enough for an electuary. Dose, the size of a nutmeg twice a day.

If costive,

Take of Conserve of red roses, an ounce and half,

Gum guaiacum, half an ounce,

Rhubarb, two drachms,

Oil



Oil of cloves, one drachm,  
Tincture of Cantharides,  
Sufficient for an electuary. The size of a walnut to be taken  
night and morning, Or,

Take of Socotrine aloes,

✍ Filings of iron, of each a drachm,

Cantharides, nine grains,

Guaiacine balsam,

Enough for pills, twenty-four. Two to be taken every  
night. Or, if the body is open,

Take of Thebaic extract, fifteen grains,

Cantharides, seven grains,

Filings of iron,

Kermes mineral, of each half a drachm,

Oil of cloves,

Enough for pills, sixteen ; two every night.

Take of Guaiacine balsam,

Traumatic balsam, of each an ounce.

Of these drops let two tea-spoonfuls be taken twice or thrice  
a day.

Take of Conserve of red roses, an ounce and half,

Yellow wax, three drachms,

Filings

Filings of iron,

Galangal, of each a drachm,

Cantharides, ten grains,

Balsam of Capivi,

Enough for an electuary. The size of a nutmeg to be taken twice a day.

Take of Shavings of guaiacum, two ounces,

Isinglass, an ounce, boil in three pints of lime water to two,

Half a pint to be drank night and morning.

The testicles and parts adjacent should be bathed with a fatus of brandy and vinegar, equal parts, at going to bed and on rising in the morning. Vinegar and water, or vinegar alone is an excellent injection. Or,

Take of Sugar of lead,

Calomel, of each a scruple,

White vitriol, five grains,

Lime water, an ounce.

For an injection. A tea-spoonful to be used night and morning. Or,

Take

Take of Sublimate, two grains,

☞ Marine acid, two drops,

Rose water, seven ounces.

For an injection as before. Or,

☞ \* Take of blue vitriol, a scruple,

Boiling water, an ounce and half,

Dissolve in a copper vessel, and make an injection as before.

Take of Extract of lead, twenty drops,

Saturnine tincture, a drachm,

Pure water, three ounces,

An injection as before.

Take of Balsam of Peru, a drachm,

Mucilage of gum arabic, as much as is sufficient to  
dissolve it,

An injection, as before.

\* This Herculean remedy requires some care and nicety in the management of it, viz. to lower  
it with water to such a point as to give little or no pain at first.

DIARRHOEA.



## D I A R R H O E A.

**A** Diarrhoea is an immoderate, or too frequent discharge of the excrements. If the matter excreted is undigested food, it is called a lientery. If crude, of an ash-color, or whitish, it obtains the name of a coeliac passion. If the foeces are sufficiently digested and aqueous, it is then a diarrhoea.

The *cause* of a lientery is whatever impedes fermentation in the stomach, or irritates its villous coat.

Coeliaca arises from an obstruction of the lacteals, or deficiency of bile.

A diarrhoea is from a redundance of serum, which may be owing to consent of parts, as a humid cerebrum, dentition, balbution, &c. from a too large quantity of food taken, at least such a one as is disproportionate to the powers of the digestive or chylopoietic organs; a morbid quality, lubricity of the intestines, laxity of the muscular fibres,

E c

deficiency

deficiency of heat, sometimes from an effort of nature to relieve herself, by making a push at the bowels, and thereby carrying off a morbid colluvies.

The *diagnostics*. They in general appear from what has been said, to which may be added bilious, black, slimy, or viscid excrements; tenesmus; spumos, greasy, or aqueous dejections; sometimes like pieces of putrified flesh; anorexia, faintness, lassitude, prostration of the vis vitæ, frequent gripings, borborygmi, swelled legs, an emaciated habit, cold sweats, spasms, a slow hectic.

The *prognostics*. If of long duration, it weakens and exco-riates the viscera, from whence arise debility, dysentery, atrophy, inspissation of the fluids, universal laxity of the solids, and accumulated acrimony. Critical evacuations without much pain ought not to be checked: let a few doses of rhubarb be given to expel the noxious saburra and assist nature in her intentions. In a long continued series of moist weather, it is epidemical, from the exhaustion of the vital heat. In old age it is dangerous. Supervening a pleurisy or peripneumony\* (Hippocrates justly observes)

\* These are what nurses call death stools.

formidable :

formidable: it is bad, says the same author, if the stools are very aqueous, white, yellow, or frothy; worse if black; livid, little and glutinous.

The cure. Let the patient be removed to a clear dry air; for the most healthy bodies are liable to this disorder on visiting a moist climate. Exercise should be taken, particularly riding on horseback in a morning: for diet, animal food, broths, jellies, and rice milk. The cold bath. For common drink, the white decoction; clysters are of considerable service, especially in case of a tenesmus; as,

☞ Take of Starch, a drachm and half, boil in six ounces of water,  
then add

Oil of olives, an ounce,

Thebaic tincture, a drachm. Or,

Take of Broth, seven ounces,

Locatelli's balsam, an ounce,

Suet, half an ounce,

The yolks of two eggs.

A clyster.



Astringents must be given, opiates ought not to be neglected, nor the dry vomit. Begin the cure with an emetic, viz. a scruple of ipecacuanha, and one grain of blue vitriol : then a lenient cathartic ; after which, if the pain still continues, an anodyne. The reader will find a sufficient number of prescriptions, which have been successful, subjoined.

Take of Rhubarb, a scruple,

Toasted nutmeg, fifteen grains,

Salt of wormwood, ten grains,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for a bole,

To be repeated occasionally.

Take of Compound powder of bole with opium, two drachms,

Toasted nutmeg,

Mastich, of each a drachm,

For six powders ; one to be taken twice a day, drinking after it four spoonfuls of the following mixture :

Take of The chalk julep, seven ounces,

Strong cinnamon water, two ounces. Or,

Take

Take of Tormentil root,

Red astringent gum, of each a drachm,

For six powders ; one to be taken twice or thrice a day.

Take of The compound powder of amber, two scruples,

Filings of iron, three grains,

Syrup of meconium, enough for a bole,

To be taken at bed time.

Take of Conserve of red roses, an ounce and half,

Red astringent gum, half an ounce,

Syrup of meconium, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg, three or four times a day.

☞ Take of Styrax pill,

Mastich, of each a drachm,

Oil of carraways, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken twice or thrice a day.

Unripe blackberries kept in powder are worthy a place in the shops ; half a drachm may be taken twice or thrice a day.

day. When the diarrhoea is subjugated, to recover the appetite and restore the tone of the fibres,

Take of Bark, an ounce,

Aromatic species, three drachms,

Filings of iron,

Galangal, of each one drachm,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg to be taken night and morning.

Take of Tincture of japan earth, six drachms,

Compound spirits of lavender, two drachms,

A bottle of drops ; dose, a tea-spoonful night and morning.

## DYSENTERY.



## D Y S E N T E R Y.

**A** Dysentery is a flux of blood from the bowels.

The *causes*. An acrid blood, erosion of the intestines, abrasion of their mucus; long continuance of a diarrhoea, somewhat acrimonious eaten or drank, hypercathartes.

The *diagnostics*. Bloody dejections, with films, slime, pieces of flesh, phlegm, bile, or pus; tormina in the stomach and bowels; faintness, spasms, tenesmus, Hippocratic countenance.

The *prognostics*. If it is imprudently stopped too soon, such a method is productive of the worst consequences; if attended with a hiccough, syncopes, or in old persons, great danger is foreboded; from a gangrene or schirrus of the intestines, it is fatal.

The

*The cure.* For diet, rice milk, fat broths, and in the summer time, berries of all sorts may be eaten at pleasure, particularly strawberries. The expressed juice of the solanum is said to be a specific in this disorder, with what truth I know not; the cerated glass of antimony has been strongly recommended: I have seen instances wherein it has succeeded, but more wherein it has failed. The buds of birch powdered and mixed up with conserve of red roses is a medicine that will seldom disappoint expectation: this has for many years been sold at a guinea a gallipot, and is still used in the navy. The conserve of roses itself is no despicable remedy, for I have often known it to answer alone, when taken to the quantity of two or three ounces in a day.

Begin the cure with a dose or two of salts; after which a little rhubarb may be given; then give three or four grains of ipecacuanha, and two grains of emetic tartar every morning;---with any of the following formulæ.

Take a sheet of white paper, cut into slips, boil in a pint and half of milk to a pint, to be taken at twice.

N. B. This never deceived me. For common drink, two ounces of gum arabic may be dissolved in a quart of water,  
sweetened

sweetened to the taste. Two scruples of the compound powder of amber should be given every night.

Take of Conserve of red roses, two ounces,

Yellow wax, half an ounce,

Filings of iron,

Galangal, of each a drachm,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg to be taken twice or three times a day. Or,

Take of Bark, six drachms,

Tormentil root,

Red astringent gum, of each two drachms,

Syrup of ginger, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg, thrice a day.

Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,

Sperma ceti, half an ounce,

Balsam of capivi, enough for an electuary;

The bigness of a nutmeg to be taken morning and night.



Take of Red astringent gum, four scruples,  
Colombo root, two scruples,  
Theban extract, ten grains,  
Tincture of cinnamon, enough for twenty-four pills,

Two to be taken night and morning, or oftener, if occasion.

## CHOLERA MORBUS.

**T**HE Cholera Morbus is a disorder of the stomach and bowels, always accompanied with vomiting and purging.

*The cause.* An acrid bile, which may be vitiated by various means ; as by eating more than can be digested ; by taking too copious a draught of cold water ; by continuing too long in the cold bath ; by a deficient secretion of the  
pancreatic

pancreatic juice ; by profuse evacuations, or feeding voraciously on fat, or fruit.

*The diagnostics.* It is most common in autumn ; retching, nausea, purging, griping, spasms, contractions of the hands and feet, bitter taste in the mouth, green color of that which is ejected and dejected, sometimes it is black ; tremors, cold sweats, facies Hippocratica.

*The prognostics.* If the inclination to go to stool abates first, it is a good symptom. Syncopes, a dicrotic or rebounding pulse, proclivity to evacuate, superseded by faintness, tumor at the pit of the stomach, all these signs denote great danger ; in ancient persons, death.

*The cure.* Give plentifully of thin broths to facilitate vomiting ; the custom is not yet relinquished of administering a puke, though it seems to be needless ; broth also may be thrown up in clysters. Or,

Take of White poppy seeds,

Cucumber seeds, of each half an ounce, boil in ten

ounces of water to seven,

Oil of lillies, three ounces,

F f 2

Nitre,

Nitre, four scruples,

Sugar of lead, half a drachm,

For a clyster.

For common drink, give a decoction of a crust of bread well toasted, 'till broth can be prepared, or coffee. Apply a bit of cotton dipped in the following mixture to the pit of the stomach :

Take of Camphire, a scruple,

Thebaic tincture, two drachms,

Oil of nutmegs, cloves and mint, of each twenty drops.

Or, bathe the pit of the stomach frequently with brandy, or spirits of wine camphorated.

Take of Calx of antimony,

Rhubarb of each a scruple,

Thebaic extract, two grains,

Simple syrup, enough for a bole,

To be taken as soon as the patient has had plentiful evacuations upwards and downwards, and begins to grow faint, washing it down with the following draught :

Take



Take of Simple peppermint-water, an ounce and half,

Strong cinnamon-water, half an ounce,

To be repeated occasionally.---See Cholic and Vomiting.

## T E N E S M U S.

**A** Tenesmus is a continual desire of going to stool without voiding any thing more than an acrid mucus: the part affected is the rectum, or its sphincter. It is rarely an idiopathic disease.

The *cause*. A laxity of the fibres; spasmodic constriction, a paralytic affection of the sphincter ani; abrasion of the mucus of, ulcer, or acrid irritating fluid in the rectum; hæmorrhoides, worms, stone, diarrhoea, dysentery.

The *diagnostics*. A pungent pain in, or about the rectum; frequent inclinations to go to stool, without correspondent evacuations;

evacuations; violent straining without voiding any thing but a viscid or bloody mucus; sensation of lassitude, faintness.

**The prognosis.** If idiopathic, and the patient is not subject to a prolapsus ani, it is by no means formidable or rebellious. If it proceeds from an ulcer in the strait gut, or if it is symptomatic in a diarrhoea or dysentery, or accompanied with syncope, it portends great danger and demands immediate assistance.

**The cure.** Use emollient fomentations and clysters; let the body be kept as still as possible and in an easy position.

✎ Take of Gum arabic, an ounce, dissolve in seven ounces of whey, to which add

A drachm of thebaic tincture,

**For a clyster. Or,**

Take of New milk, five ounces,

Sweet oil, two ounces,

Thebaic tincture, two drachms,

**For a clyster. Or,**

Take

Take of Mountain wine, five ounces,

Balsam of capivi, half an ounce, dissolved in the yolk  
of an egg,

Oil of amber, a drachm,

For a clyster. Or, the starch clyster in Diarrhoea.

Take of Flowers of sulphur,

Rhubarb, of each a scruple,

Thebaic extract, two grains,

Simple syrup, enough for a bole,

To be repeated as there may be occasion.

Take of Conserve of red roses, an ounce and half,

Sperma ceti,

Elecampane, of each half an ounce,

Rhubarb, a drachm,

Syrup of Meconium, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg to be taken morning and night.

**PILES.**



## P I L E S.

**T**HE Piles are a painful and sometimes periodical tumor in the lower part of the rectum; if they discharge blood, they are called the bleeding piles; if not, the blind piles: according to their size and shape, they are nominated verrucal, uval, moral, or vesical.

The *causes*. A plethora, a cacochymy; violent exercise, particularly hard riding; neglect of usual evacuations, laborious efforts in parturition; constipation of body, straining hard at stool, lentor; viscosity, or acrimony of the fluids.

The *diagnostics*. Swelling of the anus, great pain at going to stool, voiding of blood, sensation of a pungent pain; heat, or weight and pressure in the anus.

The *prognostics*. They sometimes, though rarely, inflame and become gangrenous; sometimes grow ulcerous and bring on a fistula. If they continue long without being resolved,

solved, they are extremely troublesome and even render life burthenfome. If they happen periodically and are always attended with a discharge of blood, they are salutary critical evacuations, and to stop them may prove dangerous, unless the bleeding is very profuse and occasions faintness, weakness, or loss of appetite.

The cure. Due regard must be paid to the cause from whence they spring, and the concomitant symptoms with which they are attended. If owing to a plethora, bleed; or order a diluting sparing regimen, with the liberal use of fruit, vegetables, cucumbers, and such like. But if they appear in a cachectic habit, it is needless to say that all these things should be avoided, and those only proposed which are easiest of digestion.

Note, the viands which digest soonest and afford the most laudable nutriment, are milk, eggs, partridge, chicken, shell-fish, jellies, and pork; there is no vegetable that digests so soon as animal substance; the bones of birds will be converted into a mucus in the stomach in less time than even bread, as I have found by frequent experiments. Nature never designed that mankind should use a vegetable diet

only, and it is astonishing that Dr. Cheyne should recommend it to hypochondriacs and to persons subject to the gout ; though indeed he retracted what he had wrote on this head before he died, and acknowledged himself to have been in an error.

The means necessary for the relief of patients in this disorder are fomentations, liniments, astringents, attenuants, resolvents, sulphureous medicines and opiates.

For the bleeding piles,

Take of Expressed juice of yarrow,

of plantain, each five ounces,

Sugar, as much as you please,

Of this mixture let four spoonfuls be taken night and morning.

If the patient is costive,

Take of Lenitive electuary, an ounce,

Precipitated sulphur, seven drachms,

Jalap, one drachm,

Syrup of buckthorn, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg morning and night.



If he is of a lax habit,

Take of Compound powder of amber,  
Olibanum, of each a drachm,  
Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; three to be taken twice a day.

A fatus may be used, of an ounce and a half of lime-water, with half an ounce of thebaic tincture. Or, an ounce of the ointment of marsh-mallows, with five grains of the thebaic extract ; this ointment or the above should be applied two or three times a day.

For the blind piles,

Take of Æthiop's mineral, an ounce and half,  
Precipitated sulphur, half an ounce,  
Rhubarb, a drachm and half,  
Honey, enough for an electuary,

The bigness of a nutmeg to be taken night and morning.

The parts may be touched four or five times a day with oil of amber, or spirits of wine camphorated.

The following electuary is not only excellent in this disorder, but I have seen amazing effects from it in the cure of a

F I S T U L A.

☞ Take of Flowers of sulphur,

Elecampane, of each an ounce,

Sweet fennel seeds, half an ounce,

Black pepper, two drachms,

Balsam of Capivi, or honey, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a walnut, twice or thrice a day.

HEART.

## H E A R T - B U R N.

**T**HE Heart-burn is a painful sensation of heat and sourness about the left orifice of the stomach, which is called cardia, from whence its name, viz. Cardialgia.

The *cause*. An acid acrimony arising from a too rapid fermentation in the stomach; the corrosive steams of this acid affect the plexus of the nerves on the upper orifice of the stomach.

The *diagnostics*. Acid eructations, a hot burning pain at and above the scrobiculus cordis, an involuntary flux of tears, nausea; vomiting soon after meals, of a greasy inflammable pituita; spasms in the stomach and bowels; the rising of water in the mouth, particularly in the morning; sickness soon after rising from bed, borborygmi, flatus.

The *prognostics*. It is never dangerous, but extremely troublesome, especially after riding or smoking; those who are subject to it are free from inflammatory fevers; it is  
 I sometimes



sometimes a tedious while e'er it can be eradicated, though always curable ; if it is suffered to continue long, it may occasion a cephalalgia, vertigo, epilepsy, and convulsions of all sorts.

The *cure*. The spasmodic or rheumatic pain in the stomach requires the use of aromatic heating medicines, as,  a scruple of camphire in half an ounce of æther ; this noblest of all antispasmodics should be taken in a spoon, without mixing any thing with it, or swallowing any thing immediately after it ; the volatile tincture of guiacum, half an ounce in six ounces of water ; opiates, aloetic purges, chalybeates, and the dry vomit. See Flatus.

The gout in the stomach is soon removed by the above-mentioned solution of camphire in æther, the guaiacine balsam ; drinking moderately of spirits or Madeira wine, or the liberal use of opiates.

Periodical pains are to be removed by the bark, or if they do not yield to *that*, by the dry vomit.

Whatever ferments speedily in the stomach should be avoided, as vegetables, fruit, sugar, wines, malt and all liquors that have not passed the state of fermentation : Madeira  
deira

deira is said to be the only wine which will not ferment in the stomach. The dinner should be made of animal food, and nothing but water drank with it; the breakfast and supper should be milk. A draught of milk and water will generally relieve the pain, whenever it is violent.

The cure may be perfected by the occasional use of *tabellæ cardialgicæ*, oyster-shells, bole, terra Lemnia, red coral, crabs eyes or claws, egg shells, burned hartshorn, liquorice, chalk, or lime-stones, which are the strongest of all alkalis; the oils of nutmegs, cloves, or cinnamon.

☞ Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,  
Salt of wormwood, six drachms,  
Pure water, a pint and half,

When the gum is dissolved, add the salt and four ounces of strong cinnamon water: of this mixture, three or four spoonfuls may be taken, twice or three times a day.

Of the aloetic alkaline wine two spoonfuls may be taken morning and night. Or, thirty drops of *lixivium* of tartar.

Take

Take of Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each a drachm,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night.

In very obstinate cases an emetic should be premised, then a purgative of two ounces of the sacred tincture ; after which, either of the above formulæ will complete the cure.

## C H O L I C.

**T**HE Cholic is a severe pain in the belly, affecting the epigastre or hypochondres ; the part affected is the gut colon.

The *causes*. Distention from flatulencies, acid gas, irritation of the villous coat of *that* intestine, crudities, constiveness, ruptures, solution of continuity, scybals, acrimony of the bile.

The



*The diagnostics.* A violent pain in the abdomen ; at one time affecting the whole of it, another time determined to one point ; sometimes shifting from place to place, sometimes fixed, while the belly swells as if it would burst : the patient is constive, makes but little urine ; a fever and strong pulsation in the abdomen are its usual concomitants, with vomiting, rugitus, or rolling noise in the intestines, but always a vehement and tense pain.

In the Bilious Colic yellow or greenish matter is ejected ; the eructations are nidorous, the thirst is more intense, and the fever higher than in the flatulent colic.

The Colica Pictonum infests the hands and feet. For this the balsam of Peru has been found an excellent remedy, the dose thirty or forty drops to be repeated as there is occasion.

The Stone Colic must be treated with a view to its cause. See STONE.

The Hysterical Colic is not dangerous. See HYSTERICS.

*The prognostics.* If the pain is mild, or if it intermits, and the constipation of body is not very refractory, it is easily cured. If the pain is fixed and there be no passage

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downward ;

downward; if it is attended with intolerable restlessness, vomiting, fainting, hiccoughs, cold sweats and delirium, there is no small danger. It not unfrequently terminates in a palsy, jaundice, epilepsy, or dropsy. If owing to an inflammation of the bowels and the pain suddenly vanishes, it will prove fatal, for the parts are then sphacelated.

The *cure*. The concomitant fever is of less consequence than it is often imagined to be, being only symptomatic, and when the cause is removed will cease of course: in general, phlebotomy is unnecessary and super-induces much worse disorders, for those just mentioned (when colics terminate thus unfavourably) are not a little obliged to the lancet for their existence. Clysters are peculiarly serviceable, because they are soonest conveyed to the affected part and expedite the discharge by stool; cathartics should immediately succeed. The use of opiates (as in all painful disorders) is indicated. Semicupia are highly beneficial.

In the Bilious Colic, emetic tartar, clysters, aloetic or rhubarbine purges and anodynes are to be used. See JAUNDICE and FLATUS.

In

In the Hysteric Colic, cordials, diaphoretics, anti-hysterics, clysters, and chalybeates, are indicated.

In the Stone Colic carminatives are of little service : regard must be paid to its original cause. See STONE.

In the Flatulent Colic begin with a purgative clyster ; if attended with a high fever, and the patient is really plethoric, draw off six or seven ounces of blood. Then,

Take of Common water, six ounces,

Oil of olives, two ounces,

Glauber's salt, an ounce and half,

Thebaic tincture, two drachms,

For a clyster. Or,

Take of Balsam of capivi (dissolved in the yolk of an egg) half  
an ounce,

Mountain wine, six ounces,

Linseed oil, two ounces,

Thebaic extract, five grains,

A clyster. Or,

Take of Socotrine aloes, two scruples,

 Gamboge, one scruple,

H h 2

Thebaic



Thebaic extract,

Calomel, of each ten grains,

Syrup of buckthorn, enough for pills,

Number sixteen; three to be taken and repeated as there is occasion. Or,

Take of Colocynth, a scruple,

☞ Thebaic extract, ten grains,

Yellow emetic mercury,

Kermes mineral, of each five grains,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Eight; two every hour till the pain ceases.

Take of Sacred tincture, two ounces and a half,

Syrup of buckthorn, half an ounce,

Volatile salt of amber, seven grains,

A draught to be taken immediately. Or,

Take of Tincture of fenna, two ounces and a half,

Syrup of solutive roses, half an ounce,

Volatile salt of amber, ten grains,

A draught.

If

If the pain continues after the draughts begin to work,

Take of Cathartic extract, two scruples,

Thebaic extract, three grains,

Yellow emetic mercury, two grains,

Balsam of Peru, enough for a bolus.

I have known electricity often remove the colic: to say the truth, I never knew it tried without giving almost immediate relief; it has sometimes returned, but a repetition of the same has had the same effect as before. Ten or fifteen grains of allum often repeated are said to cure an habitual colic.

ILIAC

## I L I A C   P A S S I O N .

**T**HE Iliac Passion is an inversion of the peristaltic motion of the intestines, consequently in this case nothing can pass downwards. It is also called Volvulus and misere-re mei.

*The causes.* The intorsusception of a superior part of an intestine into a lower, or e contra; induration of foeces in the rectum into scybals; vomiting, irritation, a rupture, acrid bile.

*The diagnostics.* A most acute pain in the small, sometimes in the large guts; generally about the umbilical region; above it, a tumour; difficulty in making urine, the anus sometimes so fast closed by a spasm as to become totally impervious; it comes on slowly, while the tumor in the belly grows bigger and harder; vehement straining, ejection of excrements by the mouth, difficult respiration, cold sweats,



sweats, hiccoughs, frigidity of the extremities, syncopes, subfultus tendinum, ideotcy.

*The prognostics.* This terrible disorder is incident to persons of all ages ; to old persons it is fatal ; hiccoughs and convulsions are the forerunners of death, so is also a sudden disappearance of the pain, being the sign of a mortification.

*The cure.* I have relieved some after the foeces came up at the mouth by cold pediluvia. Let the patient be taken out of bed, and being supported between two persons, throw water as cold as can be procured on the feet, then dash it on the legs, and in a few seconds more on the thighs : after wiping him dry, replace him in the bed, and in a quarter of an hour, if a stool is not produced repeat the same manoeuvre ; if the second operation fails, success is not to be expected.

If it proceeds from a hernia, reduce the intestine if possible. If plethoric, which is seldom the case, a little blood may be taken away. Inject, if it can be done, a clyster of tobacco smoke, it is an Herculean remedy ; then give a clyster of seven ounces of oil, with a drachm of colocynth  
boiled

boiled in it. Some give four or five ounces, or even half a pound of live quicksilver, for a dose ; if voided by stool, the patient will recover ; if retained, as it often is, it expedites his end ; I have found it in the sigmoid flexure of the colon. For several nights after recovery a paregoric will be necessary. The following simple draught has been exceeding serviceable :

Take of Sacred tincture, two ounces,

Syrup of meconium,

Oil of olives,

Vinegar, of each half an ounce,

Sperma ceti, two drachms,

A draught ; to be taken every three hours.

Take of Bitter purging salt, two ounces,

Pure water, six ounces,

Foetid tincture,

Theban tincture, of each two drachms,

A clyster.

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Take of Colocynth, two scruples,

Thebaic extract, one scruple,

Yellow emetic mercury,

Kermes mineral, of each ten grains,

Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twelve ; two to be taken occasionally.

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## A P P E T I T E B A D.

**W**HEN the appetite is depraved, or the stomach deprived of its usual appetite for food, or when a nausea is felt at the sight or smell of victuals, a person is said to labour under an Anorexia.

Apefia is when the digestive organs are incapable of elaborating the aliment into chyle, or a lost digestion.

Bradypepsia is when digestion is performed slowly and with great difficulty, or a diminished digestion.

I i

Dyspepsia



Dyspepsia is when the food cannot so properly be said to be digested, as converted into a morbid colluvies not fit for nutriment, and may therefore be called a Depraved Digestion.

They all proceed from the same causes, and require the same method of cure.

The *causes*. A laxity of the muscular fibres of the stomach, a glutinous pituita ; a deficiency of the secretions, particularly that of saliva or the gastric fluid ; grief, fear, the mind being intensely fixed on one object, hard drinking, former voracity, profuse excretions, want of sleep, deficiency of heat in the stomach, severe studies.

The *diagnostics*. Frequent retchings, and what the Scotch call dry boaking ; paleness, borborygmi, tension of the scrobiculus cordis, nidorous eructations ; after long continuance without food, no inclination to eat ; at the sight of victuals, nausea ; after eating, vomiting and swelling at the pit of the stomach, sensation of coldness in the stomach.

The *prognostics*. It often terminates in a marasmus, dropsy, jaundice, or cachexy, and the patient dies tabid. It is always of bad consequence if of long continuance, for the patient

patient gradually grows worse while the disorder increases in obstinacy. There are but few cases which are irremediable.

The *cure*. The patient should humor his stomach by eating whatever he feels the least inclination for, and of that a little at a time and often.

For diet see PHTHISIS, HYPOCHONDRIA, IMPOTENCY, and WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS.

The chalybeate waters are useful, or (if from frequent acts of intemperance and ebriety) the Bath waters; acids, bitters, change of air, exercise, sleeping soon after meals, gentle cathartics, astringents, aromatics, but above all the dry vomit.

Take of Ipecacuanha, five grains,

Blue vitriol, one grain,

Let this powder be taken in the morning fasting, three times a week, without drinking any thing during the operation.

Take of Aromatic pills, a drachm,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony,

Filings of iron,

Myrrh, of each half a drachm,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; two to be taken twice a day.

If not costive,

Take of Conserve of wormwood, an ounce and half,

Galangal,

Zedoary, of each half an ounce,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg twice a day.

Take of Aromatic pills,

Snake-root, of each a drachm,

Long pepper, half a drachm,

Oil of cinnamon, twenty drops,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; two to be taken morning and night.

A tea-spoonful of the bitter tincture may be taken thrice a day, or twenty drops of the acid elixir of vitriol. See

FLATUS.

BULIMUS.



## B U L I M U S.

**B**ULIMUS, or canine appetite, is so called from the constant propensity that is felt to eat, and the voracity with which the food is devoured.

The *causes*. A digestion too quick, a too liberal use of acids, immoderate evacuations, worms, acrimony of the gastric fluid.

The *diagnostics* are sufficiently obvious.

The *prognostics*. It is often succeeded by a bulimia; that is when the same inclination to eat remains without the power, and after the patient does eat, he faints. If not cured, it terminates in a lientery, a cacochymy, or atrophy.

The *cure*. Let fat meat and fat broths be the principal diet; sweet wines or new beer, the chief liquids that are drank. Give emetics, particularly the dry vomit and aloetic cathartics. If it proceeds from worms,

Take

Take of Æthiop's mineral,  
Tin, of each two drachms,

For six powders ; let one be taken morning and night.

Take of Socotrine aloes,  
Filings of iron,  
Affa foetida, of each two scruples,  
Oil of wormwood, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken twice a day.

Take of Socotrine aloes,  
Filings of iron, of each a drachm,  
Calomel,  
Colocynth, of each a scruple,  
Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Thirty-two ; three to be taken night and morning.

Take of Mutton suet, eight ounces,  
New milk, four ounces,

For a draught, to be drank warm.

Opium may be used occasionally, not in less doses than  
three grains.

VOMITING.

## V O M I T I N G.

**T**HE *cause* of Vomiting is a convulsive or inverted motion of the stomach; owing to some irritation of the nerves of its left orifice, which may be occasioned by consent of parts, as failing, tickling the throat, &c. to a laxity also of its muscular fibres, acid acrimony, or redundancy of bile.

The *diagnostic* is obvious. If idiopathic, no part is affected but the stomach. If symptomatic, reference must be had to the primary disorder.

The *prognostics*. It is often a critical expulsion of an acrid morbid matter, and should then be promoted by an emetic and broth. If of more than two days continuance (at times) or if the patient is always sick after eating, it ought to be prevented, or it will terminate in an anorexia, marasmus, or paralytic affection of the stomach.

The



The *cure*. Give a gentle emetic, as five or seven grains of ipecacuanha, every morning fasting, for a few days, letting it work itself off without drinking. If plethoric, which is seldom the case, bleed. Its prevention is to be secured by anti-emetics, nervines, cardiacs and opiates. Repeated applications of camphorated spirits of wine to the pit of the stomach; fomentations and stomachic plaisters may be used: it would not be amiss to apply them under the left shoulder rather than to the pit of the stomach. Preparations of mint are of great utility, either the essential oil, or an infusion of the leaves in the distilled water of the same. If it proceeds from an acid acrimony, give plentiful draughts of broth, and a drachm of the magnesia alba occasionally.

 A scruple of colombo root, as often as is necessary.

See COLIC, CHOLERA MORBUS, FLATUS and APPETITE BAD.

Take of Salt of wormwood, two scruples,

Conserve of wormwood, half a drachm,

Let this be washed down immediately with two ounces of lemon juice, or vinegar, or a draught composed of one ounce of lemon juice, and one ounce of pepper-mint-water.

Take of Bay berries, half a drachm,

Grains of paradise,

Galangal, of each ten grains,

Oil of cinnamon,

Oil of mint, of each three drops,

Thebaic extract, two grains,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for a bole,

To be taken at bed time.

A tea-spoonful of compound spirits of lavender may be taken occasionally.

## S Y N C O P E.

**S**YNCOPE, or fainting, proceeds from an obstruction of the efflux of the nervous influence along the par vagum.

The *causes*. Weakness, intense pain, hunger, thirst, anorexia, profuse evacuations, excess of external heat, passions of the mind, hysteric affections, uterine furor.

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The

The *diagnostics*. Paleness, cold sweats, low fluttering pulse, tremblings, cessation of motion and sense.

The *prognostics*. It is always dangerous, excepting in hysterical paroxysms, and then it is of little consequence. From excessive evacuations, or after convulsions, or supervening the ravages of a fever, it is often fatal.

The *cure* is to be effected by nervines, cardiacs, sternutatories, volatiles, opiates, the cordial confection, ginger, a generous diet, and the cold bath.

See EPILEPSY, FLATUS, and WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS.

Take of The chalk julep, seven ounces,

Strong cinnamon water, two ounces,

Compound spirits of lavender,

Balsamic syrup, of each half an ounce,

A julep, of which give three or four spoonfuls, as there is occasion. It is a most excellent cordial.

Take of Volatile tincture of valerian, an ounce and half,

Compound spirits of lavender, half an ounce,

Two tea-spoonfuls of these drops to be taken in a glass of water two or three times a day.

POISONS.



## P O I S O N S.

**I**F Poisons have been taken internally, give immediately three grains of blue vitriol, and five grains of the yellow emetic mercury, with frequent and large doses of sweet oil afterwards.

For the bite of a mad dog. Apply a cataplasm of pickled herrings to the part affected; or a caustic with the following dressing, half an ounce of gum elemi, and two drachms of the red corrosive mercury. Use the pulvis antilyffus, musk, alkalis, mercurials, and immersion in salt water.

Take of Camphire, a drachm and half,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony,

Yellow emetic mercury, of each half a drachm,

Balsam of guaiacum, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two; one to be taken morning and night.

N. B. I fear all the above, and the famous Ormkirk medicine too, are equally useless, if the dog be *really* mad.

For the bite of a viper. Bathe the part affected with warm oil often.

Sting of an insect. Apply a piece of allum wetted to the part frequently, or balsam of Peru and Hungary water, of each equal parts, or, of oil of olives and oil of turpentine equal parts, or camphorated spirits of wine, tincture of myrrh, of each equal parts; or volatile spirits of salt ammoniac and oil of amber, of each equal parts.

### PALPITATION *of the* HEART.

**A** Palpitation of the heart is a preternatural systole of that viscus.

The *causes*. It is often owing to a plethora, to polypous concretions, sometimes to a deficiency of nervous influence, or influx disproportionate to the elasticity of the muscular fibre,

fibre, indolence, ebriety, acid gas, spasms, acrimony of the fluids.

The *diagnostics*. A fluttering pulse, temporary floppage of the breath, a preternatural pulsation on the left side, to be felt by the hand, and sometimes to be heard.

The *prognostics*. If it is owing to fleshy excrescencies or grumous clots, it is incurable : if from a plethora, it is to be removed by bleeding only ; if from an acid halitus, easily curable by alcalis and cardiacs. If of long continuance, it often terminates in an apoplexy.

The *cure*. It must be treated according to the cause it proceeds from. If the patient is not plethoric, avoid all evacuations and use one of the subsequent remedies :

☞ A scruple of camphor, dissolved in half an ounce of ather,

For a draught.

Take of Compound spirit of lavender,

Tincture of castor, of each half an ounce,

Of these drops let two tea-spoonfuls be taken twice or thrice a day.

Take



Take of Gum arabic, two ounces, dissolve in

Pure water, a pint

Tincture of cantharides,

Oil of turpentine, of each half an ounce,

Three spoonfuls of this mixture to be taken night and morning.

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*Spasms, Opisthotonos, Convulsions.*

**S**PASMS owe their origin to an irregular or unequal influx of the vital heat into the affected muscles; or great deficiency thereof. They require the use of vesicatories, emetics, and antispasmodics, such as gum ammoniac, assa foetida, valerian, musk, or which is second to none of them, a scruple of camphire in half an ounce of æther.

Painful spasms demand the liberal use of opiates.

In the opisthotonos and the locked jaw, the thebaic extract may be given, even to the quantity of seven or eight grains for a dose, washing it down with seven ounces of the musk julep, or four grains frequently repeated, i. e. every hour, 'till the end is answered.

Convulsions of all sorts in children, yield to the following drops :

Take of Salt of wormwood, a drachm,

Tincture of assa foetida, an ounce,

Of these drops let ten, fifteen, or twenty, be given, three or four times a day.

## DIABETES.

## D I A B E T E S.

**A** Diabetes is a preternatural discharge of urine.

The *causes*. An obstruction of insensible perspiration, dilatation of the renal glands, too great attenuation of serum, laxity of the fibres, hard drinking.

The *diagnostics*. If of long standing, or supervenes on the departure of a fever, it is dangerous; proceeding from weakness of the solids, it is difficult of cure: in old persons seldom removable.

The *cure*. For diet see PHTHISIS or HYPOCHONDRIA. Astringents, chalybeates, balsamics, mineral acids, agglutinants and corroborants are proper in this case, as also is the cold bath. A vesicatory applied to the os sacrum has an admirable effect. For common drink, the white decoction may be given, with an ounce of tincture of roses in every pint; or lime-water, or the Bristol waters, or allum whey, which when drank copiously will sometimes effect a cure alone:



alone : it may be prepared by boiling two scruples of rochallum in a pint and half of new milk. If costive, let aloetics be given. The dry vomit is of considerable utility. The following have been all found serviceable : See DIARRHOEA.

Take of Mastick, a drachm and half,

Balaustines,

Olibanum, of each half a drachm,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; three to be taken twice or thrice a day.

Take of Compound spirits of lavender, an ounce,

Strong spirit of vitriol, a drachm,

Of these drops let a tea-spoonful be taken thrice a day.

Or, of

Tincture of cantharides,

A tea-spoonful morning and evening.

Take of Gum arabic, an ounce,

Bark, six drachms,

Red astringent gum, half an ounce,

Tincture of cantharides, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg, twice a day.

## W O R M S.

**W**ORMS are of three sorts, Teretes, or the round worm, whose seat is in the stomach ; Tænia, or the tape worm, which is to be found in most of the intestines ; Ascarides, or the small worm, seldom to be met with but in the rectum.

The *cause*. Ova received with the food.

The *diagnostics*. Inflation of the abdomen ; violent pain and spasms in the stomach and bowels ; itching of the nose or anus ; foetid breath, voracity, the excrements greasy, or greenish, or slimy ; coma, nausea, moistness of the mouth and flavering in the night, grinding of the teeth, faintness, cold sweats, delirium, convulsions ; shocks, similar to electrical ones ; flushing heats, flying pains, anxiety, alternate swelling and subsidence of the veins, the pulse weak and intermitting, thirst, paleness, vagrant stiches, epileptical paroxysms,

paroxysms, paralytical strokes, which go off spontaneously on the removal of the cause.

The *prognostics*. If they remain long in the intestinal canal, they produce a variety of unaccountable disorders: strange and incredible are the effects which are occasioned by these detestable vermin; few persons are wholly free from them. If after they are destroyed they are not conveyed out of the body, a putrid acrimony may be the consequence; small doses of cathartics should be continued for some time after they are killed, not only for the above reason, but to cleanse the bowels from the adhering ova.

The *cure* is to be effected by aloetics, chalybeates, oils, oleous clysters, salt or oil of wormwood, which may be applied to the navel, or a plaister of aloes and galbanum may be smeared over with it, and applied to the umbilical region for children. New milk, a decoction of quicksilver, two ounces to a pint for four doses, flowers of sulphur mixed up with honey, the size of a nutmeg to be taken night and morning; factitious cinnabar is an excellent anthelmintic, as also are the filings of pewter, which may be given to adults to the quantity of a drachm, fasting, or the same



quantity of tin. The following pills are equal to any thing in efficacy :

☞ Take of Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron, of each a drachm,

Calomel, a scruple,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; dose, two morning and night. Or,

Take of Æthiops mineral, an ounce and half,

Seeds of fantonicum, half an ounce,

Honey, enough for an electuary,

The size of a walnut to be taken night and morning. Or, if of a laxative habit,

Take of Bark, an ounce,

Coralline, half an ounce,

Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the bigness of a chesnut morning and night. See  
WORM FEVER.

SCURVY.

SCURVY *and* SCORBUTIC ERUPTIONS.

**T**HE Scurvy is a cacochymic diathesis of all the fluids.

The *causes*. An acidity, an acrimony, or (at sea) putrefactive quality in the blood, often introduced by a moist air, obstructed perspiration, putrid water, poorness of blood, that part of salted provisions which has not taken salt (for salt itself, so far from producing the scurvy, is an excellent antiscorbutic) eating too plentifully of fruit. Surfeits, as they are called, and scorbutic eruptions, originate from the too liberal use of vegetables. Few persons are entirely void of all scorbutic complaints. The sea scurvy is a disorder that requires a treatment very different from this we are treating of, though the effects are somewhat similar, for vegetables and acids are the most expeditious remedy for seamen, especially on shore ; but they ought to be totally abstained from by those who never use the sea and are troubled with cuticular eruptions.

eruptions. Scorbutic eruptions are so common, that the author has met with some thousands of these cases in a year, and never one that he did not succeed in the cure of; but lest his invariable order to abstain from all vegetables and acids should startle the reader, he begs leave to observe, that, so far from being singular in this point, he has heard the same advice given by the greatest and best physician of this or any other age or country: it were needless to add that he means Dr. Fothergil.

*The diagnostics.* An acute pain in the head, a sensation of dullness, erratic pains in the limbs, blackness of the skin, sponginess and putrefactions of the gums, oozing of blood from them; rottenness of the teeth, foetid breath, an unequal pulse, diarrhoea and dysentery; frequent shiverings, a palpitation not seldom fatal; swellings in the joints, vitiated appetite, borborygmi, tormina in the bowels, sometimes costiveness; the urine pale, red, or gravelly; nausea, hiccoughs, livid spots on the skin, sometimes converted to foul ill-conditioned ulcers, crusts, scabs, scabies, cuticular eruptions, which itch intolerably, appearing in general, first on the thighs, then on the arms and hands, sometimes scattered

on



on the breast or over the whole body ; red angry pimples, carbuncles, vesicles full of a hot acrid lymph, elephantiasis, contractions, stiffness of the joints, vertigo, convulsions, lowness of spirits, frequent sighing, dyspnoea. See LEPROSY.

The *prognostics*. This is a distemper which is exceeding crabbed and refractory, has been always reckoned very difficult to cure and dangerous. If not scientifically treated, it frequently terminates in a dropfy, atrophy, hypochondria, or apoplexy. As the old method of treating it has been hitherto somewhat unfortunate, the author can with some justice, as well as confidence, recommend a new one, which has never yet baulked his expectations.

The *cure*. When eruptions appear, they are most forcible pleaders against bleeding : the lancet is in these cases always pernicious. A milk diet is proper, at least for morning and evening ; for dinner, animal food with plenty of salt, but no vegetables. For regimen, see HYPOCHONDRIA and WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS. Give lenient cathartics, errhines, the chalybeate waters, aluminous waters, salt water, bitters, balsam of capivi, but above all the dry vomit. I shall now communicate

communicate to the reader all the various medicines I have used, the efficacy of which has been proved by a most extensive and successful experience.

Take of Aromatic pills,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony,

Gum guaiacum, of each two scruples,

Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night.

☞ Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains, dissolve in

Spirit of sea salt, ten drops, then add

Antimonial wine, an ounce,

Of these drops let twenty (or if they purge) fifteen be taken twice a day.

Take of Æthiops mineral, an ounce and half,

Gum guaiacum, half an ounce,

Crude antimony,

Snake root, of each two drachms,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg night and morning.

If not costive,

Take of Bark, an ounce and half,

Winter's bark, half an ounce,

Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg to be taken twice a day.

To cleanse the skin intirely from any remaining eruptions,  
defoedations, or from gingivous tumors,

 Take of Sharp pointed dock-roots, two ounces and  
a half,

Extract of liquorice, two drachms,

Winter's bark, half an ounce,

Boiling water, a quart. Let them stand for twelve  
hours, then strain.

Of this mixture let a tea-cupful be taken in the morning  
(fasting) and at night.

If a dentrifice is thought necessary,

Take of French bole,

Burned allum,

Myrrh, of each a scruple.

M m

To



To be used every morning. Or,

Take of Florentine orris-root,  
Burned allum,  
Lac, of each a drachm,  
Honey acidulated with spirit of vitriol, enough for  
a mixture.

As scorbutic eruptions are generally attended with a most troublesome pruritus, especially in bed, let the parts affected be anointed night and morning with the tar ointment; or if *that* though powerfully efficacious, is objected to on account of the smell,

Take of Ointment of white precipitate, an ounce,  
Luxivium of tartar,  
Effence of lemons, of each twenty drops.

To be used night and morning. Or,

Take of Camphorated white ointment, two ounces,  
Precipitated sulphur, half an ounce,  
Oil of rosewood, ten drops.

An

An ointment to be used night and morning. Or,

Take of Camphorated white ointment an ounce,

White hellibore-root, half an ounce,

Lixivium of tartar, thirty drops.

An ointment, as before. Or the Neapolitan ointment.

Take of Extract of Saturn, forty drops,

Strong spirits of vitriol, twenty drops,

Rosewater, five ounces.

A lotion. To be used night and morning.

Take of Saturnine tincture,

Extract of Saturn, each a drachm,

Pure water, five ounces,

A liniment to be used warm night and morning.

Take of Crude salt ammoniac a drachm,

Mercury sublimite seven grains,

Strong spirit of vitriol, ten drops,

Water, two ounces.

A liniment, to wash the eruptions night and morning, with a rag dipped in it.

One of the above ointments (particularly the tar ointment,  
Or,

☞ Take of Calomel, two scruples,  
Tar ointment, an ounce,

To be rubbed in night and morning, and then wiped off with a dry cloth) should always be used, when there are eruptions on the skin, and one of the above-mentioned prescriptions be taken inwardly at the same time (particularly the mixture or drops) which will effectually free the patient in a few days from this disagreeable disorder. It will wonderfully expedite the cure if the following powder is used by way of snuff; a pinch of it to be taken every night after getting into bed.

Take of White hellebore-root, a scruple,

For a strenutatory powder.



*An Account of two Indescripts.*

A Gentleman between forty and fifty years of age, of a strong constitution and plethoric habit, who had never been troubled with any cutaneous eruptions, or scorbutic disorder, was attacked by an inflammatory fever. He was attended by a learned and ingenious physician, who treated him with great propriety, setting aside the too frequent and copious blood-lettings, by which he was exceedingly reduced and incapable of leaving his bed for some weeks; the Doctor thought fit, about the expiration of that time, to order the application of a blister to the calf of each of his legs. He was now mending apace, but the calves of his legs did not seem to heal kindly; fresh vesicles appeared, and when opened, there issued out a remarkably hot and acrid lymph; in a few days more a crop of small, red, hard pimples sprouted up in the places on which the vesicatories had been laid; those itched to such a degree, that they

irritated him almost to madness. He could now walk about his room, and as persons in a convalescent state are generally peevish, his behaviour was overlooked. In a few days the watry pustules began to spread downwards to his heels, and upwards to his knees. They were succeeded as before, by a crop of itching pimples, which had now totally covered both his legs; and in this state he continued confined to his room for ten months, in other respects in perfect health, but hating life, and despairing of any relief but by death. Every method that gave the least prospect of assisting him was tried; mercurials, antimonials, antiscorbutics, bark and lime-water, with strops, fomentations and topics without number, were exhibited. The strops were ransacked and exhausted to help him, but in vain. He used to say, that he had swallowed as many medicines that year, as would have handsomely supplied half a dozen apothecaries for the time. His legs continued precisely in the same state, without the least amendment. In the eleventh month, the watery vesicles appeared in his arms, and were followed by the cuticular eruptions (as thick as possible) from his elbows to his wrists. The physician, quite tired out by  
his

his conflicts with such a rebellious disorder, frankly acknowledged that he could do him no service, and desired to be excused from waiting on him any longer.

I was then called in, and on the examination of my patient, could not forbear smiling; which he observed, and asked me, with some warmth, If I thought his case a laughing matter? I replied in the affirmative, and promised him, he should be free from his disagreeable companion before the expiration of the week (this was Sunday). I ordered only the Aethiopic electuary, under the article Scurvy, and the use of the tar ointment, with calomel, morning and night. By the Friday following, he was quite free from any uneasy sensation.

Every spring and fall, for several years afterwards, he used to have a return of these watry vesicles in his legs. I have seen them rise instantaneously to the size of a six-pence, and one or two of them as large as a half-crown. A few pimples always followed, but on the application of the tar ointment, they presently vanished. Whenever they appeared, I ordered him to take twenty drops of the antimonial wine twice a day, for a few weeks.



Were not these eruptions owing to a poverty of blood?

How far were they occasioned by the blisters?

Why did the watry vesicles appear on the *arms*, previous to the crop of itching pimples?

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**A** Man, thirty years of age, not poor, yet entertaining a much more tender affection for his money than for his own precious person; to retain as much as possible of the former, and still preserve the latter in existence, for the sake of *not* enjoying it; he lived upon water-gruel, yet would now and then infringe his œconomical rules, by indulging himself with a potatoe; his business, in the prosecution of which, he was very sedulous, confined him to a sedentary position. With these hopeful symptoms, it is certainly no miracle if such a person should be a little scorbutically inclined.

inclined. A few eruptions appeared on his thigh, they itched to remind him of the duty he owed to his carcase; he scratched, as it was the cheapest method he could take to quiet them: exasperated at such uncivil treatment, they grew angry and rancorous; the epidermis began to peel off, and this abrasion of the scarf skin, without any apparent cause, was gradually carried on, till there was not a single atom of it left on his whole body (which was as raw as if the skin had been stripped off) and the extremities of the nerves were all bare. What violent smart he must endure in this situation is easier to be conceived than expressed, when every pore and point was an ulcer. To move either trunk or limbs was impossible without the severest agonies; it seemed, as he expressed himself, as though millions of red hot needles were piercing him. Such a case I never met with, nor heard of before or since.

In this situation he had continued about a fortnight before I saw him, attended by one of the surgeons of the army, who was an honor to his profession and to human nature. He desired I might be called to him. I found him

in perfect health in every other respect, and ordered him a diet of milk or rich broths only, with the solution of sublimate under the article Scurvy, and the tar ointment to be used morning and night, but this they were obliged to discontinue, for it was not to be borne : I then ordered two parts mutton suet, and one part tar ointment to be mixed. This, upon trial giving him no pain, was spread upon linen and laid over the whole surface of his body, his back and shoulders excepted, for they were anointed, by securing the four corners of the sheet on which he lay, and removing the bed and bed-clothes from under him, and then applying it with the hand to the outside of the said sheet; afterwards replacing the bed and unfastening the corners of the sheet. By pursuing this method, in about six weeks he was perfectly recovered. I cannot omit one circumstance, viz. that his brother, who was a carpenter, had taken his measure and very obligingly, though somewhat prematurely, had finished a most excellent coffin for him.

He has been so wise as to take a pint of new milk constantly for his breakfast and supper ever since, and sometimes



times regales himself with a bit of mutton : he has also betaken himself to a more active sphere of life. I saw him about five years after, and he had never felt the least return of his disorder.

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## I T C H.

**T**HE Itch is a cutaneous disorder, too well known to need description.

The *cause*. An infectious miasma sui generis. The hypothesis of its being *wholly* owing to animalcules is highly problematical.

The *diagnostics*. *These* are to be discriminated from scorbutical eruptions by their minuteness : from venereal ones by not blotching ; and from both by their principally infest-

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ing the parts between the fingers ; with a sensation of heat that invariably accompanies the itching.

The *prognostics*. It is attended with no danger. It is never difficult to cure in any habit.

The *cure*. See SCORBUTIC ERUPTIONS, under which article the reader may find several elegant and efficacious liniments, either of which will answer his expectations in the cure of the itch (particularly the solution of sublimate, the tar ointment, or the ointment of white precipitate) and of all cuticular eruptions, whatever cause they arise from : they will also cure red faces, freckles, morpew, grubs, tetters, ring-worms, or any defoedations of the skin. The tar ointment should be used for a day or two morning and night, and then one of the other twice a day also, 'till the skin is perfectly clean : taking, during the use of the latter, the mixture recommended under the article SCURVY.

Bleeding and purging are useless and improper in this, as well as in all other cutaneous disorders. If internals are requested, though they are seldom necessary, either of the subsequent ones may be given with propriety and advantage :

Take

Take of Strong spirit of vitriol, half an ounce,

Three or four drops to be taken in a glass of water night and morning.

Take of Æthiop's mineral, an ounce and a half,

Calx of antimony, two drachms,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg to be taken morning and night. Or,

Take of Flowers of sulphur, an ounce and a half,

Nitre, two drachms,

Honey, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the bigness of a chesnut, night and morning.

Take of Strong spirit of vitriol, five drops,

Rose water, fifteen drops,

Simple ointment, an ounce,

Effence of lemon, fifteen drops,

A liniment, to be used night and morning. Or,

Take

Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains,

Strong spirit of vitriol, ten drops,

Camphorated spirits of wine, two ounces,

A lotion, to wet the parts with night and morning.

Or,

Take of White precipitate, a drachm,

Simple ointment, an ounce,

Essence of lemons, fifteen drops,

A liniment, to be used night and morning.

LEPROSY.



LEPROSY *and* ELEPHANTIASIS.

**T**HE Leprosy is a cutaneous disorder, which appears in whitish dry scabs, and often spreads over the whole body. Sometimes one leg only is affected, which swells to an enormous bulk, then called *Lepra Græcorum* and *Elephantiasis*.

The *causes*. Obstructed perspiration, weakness of the solids, poverty of blood, an ill-cured itch, the remains of which will often lurk, appearing and disappearing, though not totally, for many years, and at length will break forth in this dry scurf, gradually enlarging.

The *diagnostics*. Sometimes it is confined to the palms of the hands only, with fissures which run parallel to each other; sometimes to a little below the elbows: one while on the face only; another, in white hard scales on the neck;

Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains,

Strong spirit of vitriol, ten drops,

Camphorated spirits of wine, two ounces,

A lotion, to wet the parts with night and morning.

Or,

Take of White precipitate, a drachm,

Simple ointment, an ounce,

Effence of lemons, fifteen drops,

A liniment, to be used night and morning.

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The *diagnostics*. Sometimes it is confined to the palms of the hands only, with fissures which run parallel to each other; sometimes to a little below the elbows: one while on the face only; another, in white hard scales on the neck;



neck ; generally appearing most on the thighs or on the hands and arms ; intolerable itching, the elephant's leg.

The *prognostics*. The Leprosy confined to the skin without any remarkable tumor is easily curable : the Elephantiasis, not without much difficulty and time.

The *cure*. For the Leprosy give the most nourishing diet, as eels, &c. and use precisely the same method as that recommended under SCURVY and SCORBUTIC ERUPTIONS, which see.

For the Elephantiasis. Give the solution of sublimated antimonial wine, under SCURVY. Let the whole leg be wrapped up in a cloth, on which the following liniment is to be spread, to be renewed night and morning.

Take of Tar ointment, an ounce,

Extract of lead, half a drachm,

Camphire, a scruple,

Calomel, two scruples,

A liniment.

## E V I L.

**T**HE Struma, Scrophula, or King's Evil, is so called from an imaginary cure performed by the royal touch.

The *causes*. An acrid blood, hereditary disposition, the venereal virus conveyed in semine. Those who are of habits exaltedly scorbutic, or in whom the itch has not been perfectly cured (strange as it may seem) may beget a scrophulous offspring.

The *diagnostics*. Glandular tumors, serpiginous ulcers, erosions of particular parts, contractions, distortions, sinuous abscesses.

The *prognostics*. This disorder is not easily extirpated. If the tumors in the neck are not dissipated or opened, a glandular consumption generally ensues. Fistulous abscesses

in scrophulous patients, are rarely if ever curable, unless by the following :

Take of Corrosive sublimate, two grains,  
Spirit of sea salt, two drops,  
Rose water, five ounces,

Lint dipped in this to be applied night and morning.

The cure. For regimen, see PHTHISIS. The bark is the most noble remedy in strumous cases, when the patient is not of a costive habit. Burned sponge is often used to advantage and madder; sea-water also, but the dry vomit is inferior to no other remedy.

The following I have given with manifest utility :

Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains,  
Spirit of sea salt, ten drops,  
Antimonial wine, an ounce,

Of these drops, let an adult take twenty in a glass of water, morning and night.

Take



Take of Æthiops mineral, two ounces,  
The antihectic of Poterius, half an ounce,  
Crude antimony, two drachms,  
Honey, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg night and morning.

Externally, apply the tar ointment twice a day. Or,

Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains,  
Pure water, an ounce and half,  
Tincture of cantharides, half an ounce,

For a lotion, 'till the tumors lessen ; if not, apply a poultice  
of bread and milk 'till they break, and then dress with,

Take of Calomel, two scruples,  
Tar ointment, an ounce,

To be applied morning and night. Or, the above solution  
in rose-water.

*Falling down of the A N U S.*

**T**HE Falling down of the Fundament is owing to a laxity of the fibres of its sphincter, or to a paralytic affection of them. It is easiest to be reduced by the patient himself, lying on his back, writhing himself from side to side, crossing his legs, &c. When it is reduced, let a dry warm flannel be applied and frequently repeated; some of the following powder may be thrown on a red hot heater in a close-stool, and the anus be placed over it. If it cannot be reduced, apply dephlogisticated air.

Take of Aromatic species,

Mastic, of each a drachm and half,

White amber,

Balaustines, of each a drachm,

**A suffiment.**

**The**

The subsequent drops have proved of considerable utility :

Take of Rectified spirit, half an ounce,

Oil of turpentine, two drachms,

Strong spirit of vitriol, one drachm,

Twenty to be taken twice or thrice a day.

Take of Tormentil root,

Dragons blood,

Mastic, of each a drachm,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; three to be taken night and morning.

The red astringent gum will be of considerable service.  
See DIARRHOEA and DYSENTERY.

**STRANGURY.**



## S T R A N G U R Y.

**A** Strangury is a perpetual suppression of urine, while the efforts to discharge it are attended with pain.

The *causes*: Irritation, too long detention of urine, obstruction of it, spasms, paralytic affection of the detrusores urinæ.

The *diagnostics*. Frequent desires to make water, its coming away with difficulty and uneasiness; but little made at a time and with great pain; sensation of heat and smart when the dribbling is over, pruritus.

The *prognostics*. If symptomatic, it is easily helped, as from blisters in fevers, &c. If idiopathic, it is dangerous; in old persons, frequently mortal; it often terminates in an incurable ischury.

The *cure*. Let the patient abstain as much as possible from liquids, and take food that is balsamic and light of digestion, and make use of agglutinants, as linseed tea, fomentations,

fomentations, emollient clysters, lenient cathartics, oleous injections, mild diuretics, cardiacs, opiates, warm semicupia, cold pediluvia, or the catheter. If it proceeds from spasms, give half an ounce of æther with a scruple of camphire in it. If from a paralytic affection of the detrusors,

Take of Bark, an ounce and half,

☞ Compound powder of tragacanth, half an ounce,

Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg to be taken every two hours.

In other cases the following remedies have been attended with success :

Take of Oil of olives, five drachms,

Camphire, two drachms,

Oil of aniseeds, one drachm,

With this liniment let the pubes and perinæum be anointed every hour.

Let two ounces of horse-rhadiſh ſcraped, be boiled in a pint of ale, thrown into a cloſe-ſtool, and the vapor be received.

Take of Gum arabic, two ſcruples,

Nitre, one ſcruple,

Camphire, five grains,

Oil of aniſeeds, forty drops,

Cordial confection, enough for a bole,

To be repeated as there is occaſion. Or, the baſam of Peru mixture, under the article STONE.

If the pain is vehement, give two or three grains of the-  
baic extract.

U R I N E



## URINE SUPPRESSED.

**A** Dyfury is when the patient feels inexpressible difficulty in making water.

An Ischury is a total suppression of urine.

The *causes*. An inflammation, abrasion of the mucus that lines the urethra, deficient secretion of it ; ulcers, diarrhoea, gonorrhoea, vesicatories, acrid food, hard riding, hard drinking, the stone.

The *diagnostics*. On an attempt to make water the pain begins ; after it is evacuated, a violent smarting and sensation of heat ; most severe at the extremity of the urethra.

The *prognostics*. Proceeding from another disease, reference must be had to the original cause. If constitutional, the case is difficult.

An Ischury in old persons, or when the water cannot be educed by the catheter, is generally mortal: the last resource is immersion of the feet in cold water.

A few cases I have met with of persons not much advanced in years, where there has been no inclination to make water, nor has there been any in the bladder; frequent nauseas have been the only other symptom of want of health. On dissection, the kidneys have been found wasted.

The *cure*. The patient should use diluent liquors, whey, aluminous waters, agglutinants, blomange, broths, jellies, balsam of Capivi, gum arabic, decoction of marsh-mallow roots, new milk warm, absorbents and such as are proposed under STRANGURY, which see. See also the balsam of Peru mixture, under the article STONE.

U R I N E,

U R I N E, *Incontinence of.*

**I**F the patient cannot hold his water, let a blistering plaister be applied to the os sacrum, of the same size and shape, to be kept on four or five days, or 'till it comes off of itself, and

Take of Bark, six drachms,

Red astringent gum, two drachms,

Tincture of cantharides, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg night and morning.



## L E T H A R G Y.

**A** Lethargy is an involuntary drowsiness, or continual propensity to sleep.

*The causes.* A deficiency of vital heat in the cerebrum, foggy food, excess of pituita, indolence, using sleep after dinner, omitting customary exercise, lentor, viscosity of the fluids, spasms.

*The diagnostics.* They are obvious from what has been already observed, to which may be added a memory much impaired.

*The prognostics.* In young persons, if they are invaded in the summer time, it is easily cured: in winter if the patient is attacked, and feels a great prostration of strength, it is dangerous. In old persons, if the urine is white, it is scarcely curable.

*The cure.* Removal into a clear dry air is necessary. The diet should be as in HYPOCHONDRIA, which see. Bleeding  
ing

ing often renders it incurable. A bladder may be filled with hot water, and laid on the head, which should be rubbed with warm flannel, or use some of the applications recommended under the article HEAD-ACH. Touch the palate with a feather dipped in boiling water. The proper remedies are sternutatories, acrid clysters, stimulants, aromatics, volatiles, chalybeates, vesicatories, the dry vomit, and plaisters to the head when shaven, as

Take of Galbanum, two drachms,

Pellitory,

Long pepper,

Castor, of each a drachm,

Balsam of Peru, sufficient to make a plaister.

Take of Volatile salt of hartshorn,

Volatile salt of amber, of each a scruple,

Lisbon wine, two ounces,

A draught, to be taken every night.

Take of Volatile tincture of valerian,

Volatile tincture of guaiacum, of each an ounce,

Of these drops let two tea-spoonfuls be taken twice or thrice a day.

Take of Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron,

Asa foetida, of each two scruples,

Kermes mineral,

Yellow emetic mercury, of each one scruple,

Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Thirty-two ; two or three to be taken night and morning.

## I M P O T E N C Y:

**I**mbecillity is an inaptitude for coition: Impotency is a total incapacity of that action.

The *causes*. A deficiency of vital heat, or some impediment to its proper efflux from the spinal marrow ; weakness of the solids, profuse venery, ill-cured claps, gleans of long continuance, gravelly disorders, anorexia, mastupration, frequent bleedings.

The



The *diagnostics*. Flaccidity and hanging down of the testicles, coldness of the glans penis ; few, weak, or no erections ; pain or weakness in the loins, wandering stitches in the sides and groins, cephalalgia, vertiginous disorders, involuntary emissions without erections, hypochondria.

The *prognostics*. If idiopathic, the cure is difficult : in old men impracticable ; if the patient is young and has no other complaint of any consequence ; or if it proceeds only from indiscreet excesses, it is easily curable ; if accompanied with a gleet, let that be first muzzled before the cure is attempted.

The *cure*. Great regard must be paid to the non-naturals. The patient should keep his mind constantly employed, to prevent as much as possible the incursion of venereal desires or thoughts. He should rise early in the morning, take a great deal of exercise, stopping short only of fatigue. The less fluids that are drank the better, the whole quantity ought not to exceed two quarts in the twenty-four hours. Let the diet be of shell-fish of all sorts, particularly lobsters, crabs or oysters ; of flat fish also, as skait, turbot, dories and plaice, especially the skin of the latter ; or of any wild fowl, the most eligible

eligible of which are pigeons, partridges, and woodcocks; add to which eggs, lampreys, eels of all sorts, which are by no means inferior to vipers; caviar, strong meat soups, any animal (but no vegetable) food, particularly pork, calves-head, with the skin on; calves and neats-feet or trotters. Milk is the best breakfast and supper. Brandy and water the most proper to drink at dinner. All agglutinants, chalybeates and aromatics are useful; opiates also, which powerfully increase the secretion of semen. The testicles should be bathed night and morning with equal parts of rectified spirit of wine and vinegar 'till they cabbage; nor is it a matter unworthy of attention, always to wipe the glans dry after making urine. See WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS.

Sterility is owing to the same causes, and requires the same method of treatment. To give prolificity to the semen, by determining a sufficient quantity of the nervous influence to it, nothing equals the oil of cloves, by means of which many have proved fathers, after all previous efforts had for many years been fruitless: *this*, therefore, ought not to be omitted in any medicines that are given, calculated for that purpose. It may not be amiss to observe in this place, that

that the balsam of Peru has an effect directly opposite to that of the said oil.

The following formulæ powerfully stimulate to conjugal intercourses, furnish ability equal to desire and seldom fail to render those intercourses prolific.

✎ Take of Oil of cloves, half an ounce, dissolve in  
The yolk of an egg, then add  
Tincture of cantharides, an ounce and half,

Of these drops let two tea-spoonfuls be taken night and morning.

Take of Socotrine aloes,

✎ Filings of iron, of each two scruples,  
Theban extract, ten grains,  
Cantharides, eight grains,  
Oil of cloves, enough for pills,

Sixteen ; two to be taken every night.

✎ Take of Aromatic species,

Cloves, of each a scruple,  
Ambergrease,  
Musk, of each five grains,

℞

Thebaic



Thebaic extract, two grains,

Cantharides, one grain,

Oil of cloves, five drops,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for a bole,

To be taken every night for a month ; during which time the patient should have no connexion with his wife.

Take of Oil of cloves, six drachms,

☞ Oil of nutmegs, one drachm,

Of these drops, ten may be taken on sugar night and morning.

Take of Oil of cloves, ten drops,

☞ Mucilage of gum arabic, half a drachm,

Pure water, an ounce,

A draught, to be made according to art, and taken morning and evening.

G O U T.

## G O U T.

**T**HE Gout is a chronical disease most commonly affecting the feet. If it attacks the knees it is called Gonagra ; if the hands, Chiragra ; if the elbow, Onagra ; if the shoulder, Omagra ; if the back or loins, Lumbago.

The *causes*. Irregularity with respect to some of the non-naturals, immoderate venery, feeding frequently and voraciously on fat, great fatigue, a moist cold air, a contusion, tartarous wines, fermenting liquors ; acid gas, as appears from the sour sweats and acid eructations so common in athritic paroxysms ; fruit, vegetables, the passions of the mind, indolence.

The *diagnostics*. A most intense pain, as though a wedge were fixed between the joints ; or as if the part were in a press ; sometimes it seems stretched to such a degree, that the unhappy patient is ready to think that it will burst

every moment: when this is the case, it is seldom more than six hours before the pain abates and a welcome sleep succeeds. Sometimes the sensation is similar to that which would be brought on if the parts were gnawn by carnivorous animals. Those who have been long tormented with it have often a cretaceous matter issue from the bursting of the small vessels, which is an induration of the nervous filaments, and is actually chalk, for the nerves seem to be originally constituted of a chalky earth lengthened into fibres by animal glue.

*The prognosis.* If hereditary (which with humble submission to Doctor C. it certainly may be) it is most difficult to relieve. It is generally supposed to be incurable, as all disorders are said to be which we know not *how* to cure. The fits may be undoubtedly rendered milder, and perhaps be totally prevented by pursuing the subsequent method; it has succeeded in the removal of many inveterate Gouts, though they were of long standing and had been every year exacerbating.

*The cure.* Let the patient live wholly on animal food, or use a milk diet, and for change take meat broths: he may  
drink



drink plentifully of two milk-whey ; but must abstain from all vegetables, sugar, claret and malt liquors ; spirits diluted with water will not hurt him. Exercise is absolutely necessary, and too much cannot be taken, nor can it be too often repeated, if it does not proceed to fatigue. The mind should be kept as calm and composed as possible ; amusement and a little dissipation of thought is necessary.

If the Gout seizes the stomach, give immediately half an ounce of æther with a scruple of camphire in it ; let it be taken alone in a spoon, without swallowing any liquid for some minutes after it : if the sensation it occasions is disagreeable, he may rinse his mouth with a little cold water, and spit it out. It is an admirable remedy, and never deceived me.

To fix an erratic gout, and bring on a regular fit, give assa foetida inwardly, and bathe the great toe and metatarsus with volatile spirit of salt ammoniac.

If the fit comes on in good earnest,

Take of Camphire, fifteen grains,

☞ Thebaic extract, four grains,

Ipecacuanha,

Ipecacuanha, three grains,

Kermes mineral,

Yellow emetic mercury, of each two grains,

Cordial confection, enough for a bole,

Let this be washed down with the following draught :

Take of Volatile tincture of guaiacum, six drachms,

☞ Pure water, eight spoonfuls,

After taking this bolus and draught, the patient should lie between flannel sheets. Let the draught be repeated every night for some time, with the addition of two drachms of elixir of aloes, if costive, and *That the Gout is incurable* is a proposition that will no longer be taken for granted.

The alvine canal should be kept open with aloetics and mercurials ; all bitters and alkalis are useful : nor is it amiss to bathe the feet every night in warm water with a handful of salt in it. As to the application of leeches, or opening the saphoena when the fit is coming on, I never saw any good effect from it, nor can a gouty person be bled without

great hazard and danger. As to burning cotton on the part affected, notwithstanding the authority with which it comes recommended, I could never persuade any person to try the experiment. If topics are desired, quick-lime and honey for an epithem seems to be the most eligible one. Or,

Take of Strong spirit of vitriol,

Rose water, of each forty drops,

Simple ointment, an ounce,

A liniment, to be applied often to the part affected. Or, a vesicatory.

To prevent a return let one of the subsequent medicines be given and continued for some months: they are adapted to the various circumstances of different patients, and the choice must depend on the skill of the practitioner.

Two tea-spoonfuls of the volatile tincture of guaiacum, or

One of soap ley,

May be taken night and morning.

Take



Take of Gum-guaiacum,

Camphire, of each a drachm,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony,

Yellow emetic mercury, of each a scruple,

Balsam of guaiacum, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two; three to be taken every night, and two in the morning.

Take of Aromatic pills, a drachm and half,

Filings of iron, half a drachm,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony,

Yellow emetic mercury, of each a scruple,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; two to be taken (or three) night and morning.

Take of Germander,

Ground pine, of each an ounce,

Leffer centaury, six drachms,

Gentian root, half an ounce,

Syrup of ginger, enough for an electuary,

The size of a walnut to be taken twice or thrice a day.

Take

Take of Bark an ounce,

Winter's bark, three drachms,

Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary.

Dose the size of a nutmeg thrice a day.

Take of Ginger, an ounce,

Chamomile flowers, half an ounce,

Grains of paradise,

Galangal, of each two drachms,

Oil of mint, one drachm,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for an electuary.

The bigness of a nutmeg to be taken morning and night.

In emaciated habits, two drachms of the filings of iron may be added to either of the above electuaries.

R r

RHEUMATISM.

## R H E U M A T I S M.

**T**HE Rheumatism is a painful disorder, the seat of which is in the membranous parts of the body : it is sometimes mistaken for the Gout.

The *causes*. A viscosity of that mucus which is designed to lubricate the joints and facilitate their motion, heats and colds, moist air, relics of the venereal disorder, large quantities of mercury taken, scrophulous diseases, acrid serum, deficiency of vital heat, elastic air.

The *diagnostics*. Wandering pains, a fixed pain in the shoulder, hip, loins, arm, leg, knee, thigh, breast, side, or head, the part seldom red, the pain felt most when the part is in motion, or the pain being most severe at night, when the patient begins to grow warm in bed.



N. B. This is the case, when the cause is elastic air. Sometimes it is attended with a fever, then called the hot rheumatism, preceded by chills and rigor; persons in years feel the attack in their head and bowels.

*The prognosis.* If idiopathic, the chronic rheumatism is curable with great facility, however difficult to cure it may be thought to be: the author has a right to speak with some confidence on this subject, for he has certainly had the management of as many rheumatic cases as any human being, without finding any of them rebellious to the method hereafter proposed. If improperly treated it is very apt to return periodically. If symptomatic, the cure of it depends on the removal of the primary disorder. Bleeding in the chronic Rheumatism, protracts the cure.

*The cure.* If attended with an ardent fever (then called the acute Rheumatism) let it be treated in just the same manner as an ardent fever; when there is a remission give the bark, which by the way, will remove any rheumatic disorder, if exhibited scientifically, and in large quantities. The lancet has been esteemed necessary in a chronic Rheumatism, but it is never really so; for if it should yield

a temporary relief, such a relief is purchased at a vast expence. The diet should be the same as in the Gout, which see. Let the part be kept warm, bathed with oil of turpentine night and morning, or a blistering plaister be laid on it. Buckbean tea, though nauseous, is no bad auxiliary. The dry vomit will greatly expedite recovery, and in many cases effect a cure alone.

Take of Emetic tartar,

Blue vitriol, of each eight grains,

For three powders. One to be taken every morning fasting:

☞ Take of Volatile tincture of guaiacum, six drachms,

Elixir of aloes, one drachm,

Oil of turpentine, half a drachm.

To be taken in eight spoonfuls of water every night till well. Four or five of these draughts are generally sufficient for a perfect cure. Or,

☞ Take of Socotrine aloes, seven grains,

Thebaic, extract three grains,

Guaiacine balsam, enough to make two pills,

Both

Both to be taken at bed-time, and repeated as there is occasion. Or,

Take of Colocynth, two scruples,  
☞ Theban extract, one scruple,  
Yellow emetic mercury,  
Kermes mineral, of each ten grains,  
Simple syrup, enough for pills,

Twelve; two to be taken at night. Or,

Take of Calomel\*,  
Camphor, of each a scruple,  
Balsam of Peru, enough for a bole.

To be taken at bed-time. To prevent its return,

☞ Take of Flowers of sulphur, two ounces,  
Gum guaiacum, half an ounce,  
Precipitated sulphur of antimony, two scruples,  
Oil of turpentine, three drachms,  
Honey, enough for an electuary,

\* Procured from Apothecaries Hall.

Dose,



Dose, the size of a nutmeg morning and night. This electuary will succeed also in the cure of most cases alone.

Take of Volatile tincture, two ounces.

Of these drops let two tea-spoonfuls be taken morning and night.

Take of Bark, an ounce,

Extract of liquorice, half an ounce,

Oil of anniseeds, two drachms,

Traumatic balsam, enough for an electuary.

Dose, the size of a chestnut thrice a day.

Take of Bark, an ounce,

Gum guaiacum, half an ounce,

Oil of Sassafras, two drachms,

Filings of iron, one drachm,

Syrup of orange peel, enough for an electuary.

Dose, the size of a nutmeg thrice a day.

## H I P : G O U T.

**T**HE Sciatica, or Hip-Gout, is so called because the pain is confined to the parts about the hip.

The *cause*. Inspissation of the mucus in the acetabulum, which may be occasioned by the same causes which produce the Rheumatism.

The *diagnostics*. Intense pain, as though the thigh were dislocated; it is most common with those who have not arrived at the years of puberty; sometimes very old persons are attacked with it; it rarely invades those of middle age; atrophy of the thigh, lameness.

The *prognostics*. If idiopathic, it is not dangerous; if not scientifically treated at first, it may require some difficulty and time to remove; if symptomatic, reference must be had to the primary disorder; the lameness, if of long standing, is rarely curable.

The

The *cure*. The regimen and medicines requisite are much the same as those just mentioned in the Rheumatism. Turpeth mineral is greatly and justly extolled as an alterative in this case. It will generally yield, in a few days, to one large spoonful of volatile tincture of guaiacum, given every night in six spoonfuls of water. Some recommend whipping the part with nettles. Much more eligible topics are to be found below.

Take of Gum guaiacum, two drachms,  
Thebaic extract, half a drachm,  
Emetic tartar,  
Yellow emetic mercury, of each ten grains,  
Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two ; three to be taken every night. Or,

Take of Gum guaiacum, a drachm and a half,  
Camphire, half a drachm,  
Calomel, twelve grains,  
Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken morning and night.



Take of Camphire,

Barbadoes tar,

Oil of turpentine,

Oil of aniseeds, of each half an ounce,

A liniment, to be used twice or thrice a day. Or,

Take of Black soap,

Honey, of each an ounce,

With the white of an egg, make an ointment, as before.

Take of The common plaister with gums, an ounce,

Blistering plaister, two drachms,

Euphorbium, one drachm,

A plaister. Or, the common blistering plaister (which may be applied to the head of the fibula, if the part, or knee be swelled) or a Burgundy pitch plaister. See RHEUMATISM.

S s

DEAFNESS.

## D E A F N E S S.

**D**EAFNESS must be treated according to the primary disorder from which it arises, as epilepsy, lues, fevers, &c. The more plentiful the excretion of cerumen is, the easier to be cured. The methods proper to be taken are such as follow; purges, diaphoretics, vesicatories, setons, fyringings, sternutatories, and the dry vomit. Electricity will sometimes cure it, so also will wearing their own hair in those who have been used to a wig.

The common *cause* of Deafness is a deficient, or too viscid secretion, or a constipation of the wax in the ears. A teaspoonful of *warm water* poured into the ears, and suffered to continue for a minute or two in them, every night, will often produce extraordinary and unexpected effects. This is a more expeditious solvent of the cerumen than upwards of  
seventy

seventy other different menstruums that were tried. Let a pinch of the following snuff be taken immediately after :

Take of White hellebore root, a scruple,

Euphorbium, two grains,

A sternutatory powder.

If the warm water will not remove Deafness, after using it some weeks, nothing that is *put into the ears* will do it.

If an insect has penetrated into the ear beyond the reach of extraction, let it be killed by dropping some of the following mixture warm into the ear :

Take of Elixir of aloes, half an ounce,

Oil of wormwood, thirty drops,

Oil of favin twenty drops.



## CHOREA SANCTI VITI.

**S**T. Vitus' Dance is an involuntary yet irresistible motion of several muscles. The patient uses many ridiculous and antic gestures: what is very odd, those muscles only are affected which are destined for spontaneous motion, for the heart, diaphragm, lungs and stomach are never injured by this whimsical disorder.

The *cause*. An unequal distribution of the nervous influence. This is often owing to an obstructed menstruation, chlorosis, acid gas, irritation from worms, weakness of the solids.

The *diagnostics*. It is most common to females before puberty; tremors, convulsions, distortions, continued contraction of the antagonist muscle; working of the eyes, stiffness of the limbs, hopping about upon one leg, catchings of the hands, twisting of the fingers, lying down and

rising upright for many times together, various grotesque and unintended gesticulations.

The *prognostics*. Menstruation generally cures it. I have seen many very extraordinary cases of this sort, but never met with one that was difficult to cure. When of long continuance it sometimes degenerates to an epilepsy. The use of the lancet (which ought by no means to be allowed in this disorder) sometimes super-induces an opisthotonos and often an incurable phthisis.

The *cure*. For regimen see WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS, which is an inseparable concomitant of this distemper. Begin the cure with the dry vomit, which should be continued twice or thrice a week 'till the patient is recovered: besides this, the following pills and drops will greatly expedite the cure.

Take of Socotrine aloes, a drachm,

Filings of iron, two scruples,

Precipitated sulphur of antimony, one scruple,

Balsam of Peru, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four; two to be taken every night, or oftener.

Take

Take of Tincture of wood-foot, an ounce,

A tea-spoonful to be taken night and morning.

To complete the cure, let chalybeate waters be used, and the cold Bath every morning. Half a drachm of ginger may be given with great advantage twice a day. I seldom, if ever, omitted it. The balsam of capivi is of considerable utility, as also is the volatile tincture of valerian. The subsequent mixture I have seen the most desirable effects from:

Take of Salt of wormwood, two drachms,

Simple cinnamon water, seven ounces,

Volatile spirits of salt ammoniac,

Balsamic syrup, of each half an ounce,

Of this mixture let two spoonfuls be taken morning and night.

**WEAKNESS**



WEAKNESS *of the* SOLIDS.

**I**N all habits of body where there is a constitutional deficiency of vital heat, there must exist a laxity of the muscular fibre, with some of its usual concomitants, viz. habitual chilliness, flabbiness of the flesh, pallid countenance, thin lank hair, bad appetite, lowness of spirits, cuticular eruptions, flatulencies, bilious disorders, obstinate costiveness, or diarrhoea. Whatever malady such persons may labour under, bleeding is inadmissible, and must be highly improper; for such an operation will certainly prove injurious, and perhaps (as is too often the case) fatal to the patient; purging may be of considerable utility to such persons, because they have generally a redundancy of ferous fluids, though never of the flat red particles. Weakness of the solids requires peculiar attention to the regimen and diet, for that which is received into the stomach by pounds and

and

and quarts, is much more consequential and may as well be adapted to the state of the case as that which is taken by grains and drops. For such persons a clear dry air is extremely requisite, at some distance from trees; nor is it an unimportant matter for them to take frequent walks in a garden well stored with aromatic herbs, such as rue, lavender, mint, rosemary, &c. or those herbs may be kept growing in the house, but by no means suffered to lie in it when dry or dead. Sleep should not be allowed to excess, and the less time that is spent in bed when not sleeping, the better. The excretions must be duly regulated, for a great deal depends on a proper regard to the evacuations: care should be taken to adjust this affair with as much nicety as possible, and to trim the balance between deficiency and excess. To such persons few things are of more importance than pleasing conversation, diversions, and a constant endeavour to preserve a calmness and composure of mind. Gentle exercise, gradually increased, must not be neglected; particularly swinging, during a continuance of a moist atmosphere. The most nutritious diet is to be recommended, such for instance, as milk, which is the best breakfast and  
supper

supper for all weakly persons without exception ; no person need be apprehensive of any bad consequences from its curdling on the stomach : it is most eligible to take it as it comes from the cow, unless it purges ; then it must be boiled. Of broths (all which are useful) that which is made of pork is preferable ; the author has seen amazing effects from it. Eggs, if they do not gripe, are very desirable, and all sorts of animal, with little (or no) vegetable food ; especially shell fish, and flat fish, every species of which affords the most plenteous and the most laudable nourishment : next to these may be mentioned wild fowl, particularly partridges, growse, and pigeons ; for change, chicken, calves feet jellies, neats feet, trotters, beef tea, soups of all sort, caviar and blomange. A little should be taken at a time but often repeated : a jelly may be always at hand and cannot be too frequently had recourse to, if the stomach will bear it, for *that* must be constantly humored, and nothing should be refused that the least inclination is felt for. Spirits diluted with water are chiefly, if not wholly to be drank ; unless Madeira wine should be found more agreeable to the

T t

palate :



palate : if beer is allowed, it ought to be very strong and very old, but not stale.

As a teneritude of the fibres, or their want of due elasticity is owing to a deficiency of vital heat, which is greatly abated by an acid gas or vapor, persons of this frame should abstain from all those things which increase this sour halitus by fermenting too rapidly in the stomach, such as sugar, fruit, vegetables, claret and all liquors that have not passed the state of fermentation.

The medicines proper to be administered, are aromatics, bitters, chalybeates, astringents, the bark, foetids, detergents, cardiacs, mineral acids, and above all things else, frequent repetitions of the dry vomit. See Phthisis, Flatus, Hypochondria, Epilepsy, and Impotency.

PAINFUL

## PAINFUL DISORDERS.

*Pain in the Head.* See CEPHALALGIA.

## PAIN in the EARS.

**P**AIN in the Ears is sometimes caused by the tooth-ach, sometimes owing to an imposthume. If idiopathic and attended with a tinnitus, apply plaisters of Burgundy pitch, or blisters behind the ears ; use warm cataplasms, sternutatories, setons, cathartics, or opiates.

T t 2

TOOTH-

## T O O T H - A C H .

**T**HE Tooth-ach is generally owing either to a tumor of the gingivæ, of the circumjacent muscles, or to the caries of the tooth ; it may also originate from a viscidty, or acrimony of the fluids. It is common in scorbutic habits and to those of weak solids: If it comes periodically, let the bark be taken. Opiates, if necessary, may be given internally. Oil of castor held in the mouth will often give immediate ease, so also will electricity. If the gums are much swelled, they may be ripened by a cataplasm of figs ; smoaking tobacco will sometimes discur the tumor. Sternutatories are exceeding useful, and so are vesicatories ; warm cloths should be frequently applied, and plaisters of Burgundy pitch to the temples. A tea-spoonful of thebaic tincture, or brandy, poured into the ear of the affected side seldom fails to remove the pain, especially if a little vinegar be



be previously held in the mouth. If the tooth is carious, extirpation is the quickest and most efficacious remedy: if that is not permitted,

Take of Thebaic extract,

Camphire, of each two grains,

Oil of cloves,

Oil of pepper, of each two drops,

A pill, to be put into the tooth.

### P A I N *in the* F A C E.

**I**F the pain is over all one side of the face, or if both the maxillæ are affected, use a gargarism of brandy and vinegar, equal parts, and bathe the part outwardly with warm oil: if this method has not the desired effect, dissolve a drachm of camphire in half an ounce of æther, pour a little of it into the hand, and apply to the affected part.

Take

Take of Salt of wormwood, two drachms,

Calx of antimony, two scruples,

Pure water, seven ounces,

Balsamic syrup, one ounce,

A Mixture; three spoonfuls to be taken night and morning.

## P A I N    *of*    t h e    N E C K.

**T**HIS is commonly called a Crick, and is soon helped by drawing sparks from the part when the patient is placed on an electrical stool; by the frequent application of warm cloths, or by ironing the part, or moistening it with a saturated solution of camphire in æther.

*Pain in the Breast.* See PHTHISIS.

*Pain in the Side.* See FLATUS.

*Pain in the Stomach.* See HEART-BURN.

**PAIN in the BACK or LOINS.**

**T**AKE of Balsam of capivi, an ounce. Of these drops let twenty be taken on brown sugar night and morning.

Take of Spa water, half a pint,

Boiling water, the same quantity,

A draught, to be drank immediately, and to be repeated twice or thrice a day.

Half an ounce of volatile tincture of guaiacum,

To be taken every night in six ounces of water. See

**NEPHRITIS.**

**PAIN**



## PAIN in the LIMBS.

SEE RHEUMATISM. If in the *Shins*, give three or four grains of theban extract, with three grains of Kermes mineral every other night, anointing them every night with the stronger blue ointment.

## WHITE - SWELLING.

APPLY a blistering plaister to the knee, let it be wrapped up in it and the plaister be kept on five days. This should be repeated every fortnight or three weeks, 'till the patient is well, giving the dry vomit twice or thrice a week. I never met with but *one* instance wherein this method failed of success in curing this formidable disorder.

## HERNIA.

## H E R N I A.

**A**RUPTURE is either intestinal, omental, watery, flatulent, carnous, or varicose. The two first are owing to a prolapsus of the gut ilium, or the caul into the scrotum, groin, or navel. In infants it is easily curable, in adults with some difficulty.

Give an emollient clyster, apply an emollient fomentation, reduce and retain with proper ligatures or a truss: the patient avoiding flatulent food for some time, and all violent motions of the body. Let the part be bathed night and morning with rectified spirit, or with lime-water. Keep the patient on his back as long as possible: I have known those who by resolutely continuing in this posture for five or six weeks have been perfectly freed from a Hernia of many years standing, *though* pretty much advanced in years.

U n

The

The watery Hernia to be known by a pellucid tumor of the testicles, is to be cured by hydragogues, diuretics, discutient cataplasms, or puncture.

The strangulated Hernia, requires the hand of a surgeon.

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### G A N G R E N E *and* M O R T I F I C A T I O N.

**A** Gangrene is the death of a particular part, owing to the total impediment of any communication of a fluid from the arteries. It commonly affects the adipose membrane only : a Sphacelus or Mortification invades all parts, the bones not excepted.

The *causes*. Stagnation of the fluids, ligature or compression of the veins, cold, inflammation, wounds, bruises, luxations, fractures (especially if bound too tight) ruptures.

The *diagnostics*. A sensation of a dull pain ; a pale, ashy, brown, livid, or green color : no resistance to the touch.

Those



Those of a mortification are insensibility, a cadaverous smell, perfectly black color, that blackness spreading, an eroding mortiferous corruption.

The *prognostics*. A Gangrene may be cured. A Sphacelus must be extirpated.

A Gangrene of the brain, bowels or bladder, is mortal; of the mouth, lip, nostrils or genitals, difficult of cure; in dropicals, phthificals, and scorbutics, a Gangrene is the fore-runner of death.

A mortification, if it attacks the upper parts, or brings on agryphia, delirium, faintings, borborygmi, hiccoughs, spasms, pains which go off suddenly, cold sweats, or coma, forebodes the hasty approach of a dissolution.

The *cure*. If a Gangrene proceeds from frost, rub the parts with snow or cold water, afterwards applying,

Take of Elixir of aloes,

Spirit of salt ammoniac,

Tincture of myrrh,

Oil of turpentine, of each equal parts,

For a liniment.

To stop the progress of a Mortification, there is no external application comparable in efficacy with the oil of olives: let the part be bathed with it as hot as it can be borne twice or thrice a day. I have seen incredible effects from it, even with persons greatly advanced in years. If anything in nature will prevent a sphacelus from spreading, I believe *this* will. Internally give the bark, chalybeates, the blue vitriol and opiates.

☞ Take of The styrax pill, a drachm,

Make into twelve pills; one to be taken every hour, or oftener.

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### SCHIRRUS and CANCER.

**A** Schirrus is an induration of a glandular part, owing to a previous inflammation.

*The causes.* That which occasions an inspissation of the fluids in the glands.

If the margins of a Schirrus are inflamed so as to produce an erosion of the neighbouring vessels, it is called a Carcinoma, or Cancer.

A recent Schirrus, the resolution of should be attempted by mercurials; if that succeeds not, extirpation is necessary: if that cannot be complied with, palliatives are all that can be expected, such as a milk diet, the balsam of capivi, and thirty or forty drops of dulcified spirits of nitre, in every draught of liquor that the patient takes.

A Cancer resists every internal means (hitherto known) of cure. I never saw any good effects from the cicuta. If extirpation is not permitted, give twenty of the following drops night and morning :

Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains,

Spirit of sea salt, ten drops,

Dulcified spirit of nitre, an ounce,

Drops.

To alleviate the pain, the tar ointment with calomel applied twice a day, is, I verily believe, superior in efficacy to any other topic. I have known great numbers whose lives  
have



have been rendered comfortable by the use of it, who before had suffered the most excruciating agonies.

The same above-mentioned palliatives are requisite.

If the part is extremely offensive, use a carrot poultice. If a cure is expected, it must be obtained by the hands of the surgeon.

I have seen lately several cancers of the lip yield to the above drops and ointment.

## B U R N.

**A**PPLY oil and lime-water, or spread some of the epulotic cerate thin on a piece of thin leather. To prevent an unsightly scar, after the above cerate has been renewed every day, for four or five days, then use a liniment (once a day also) composed of equal parts of soft soap, honey, and oil of olives.

## S P R A I N.

## S P R A I N.

**F**ROM the situation a part must be in when sprained, nothing can be more absurd than the usual method of resting it : it should be kept as constantly in motion as possible, and it will be well in the tenth part of the time that will be requisite for the cure, if spared ; which any one may be satisfied of, who will make the trial. If any fots is used, equal parts of vinegar and brandy is the most eligible,

## O E D E M A.

**A**N Oedematous tumor is soft, whitish, cold, indolent, and doth not resist the touch. If a topic is necessary, I know none preferable to,

Take of Rectified spirit, three drachms,

Oil of turpentine, two drachms,

Spirit of salt ammoniac, one drachm,

A liniment, to be used three or four times a day.

## U L C E R

U L C E R    *in    the*    L E G S.

**O**F all the disorders incident to poor people, this is the most common ; at least I have seen such numbers among the infinite variety of persons who have applied to me for assistance, that I can safely aver, I have cured more ulcerated legs than any man in his Majesty's dominions ; nor did I ever meet with one case that did not yield to the method hereafter proposed.

The *causes*. A scorbutic acrimony, depauperated blood, sedentary life, poor living, moist air, damp ground. Hence it is no wonder that there are so few of the weavers in the North of Ireland free from this troublesome complaint ; for they live chiefly upon potatoes or oaten bread, and sit at their looms three or four feet beneath the surface of the earth.

After recommending a milk diet, the only medicines which I ever ordered inwardly, were my solution of the sublimate (See CANCER) twenty drops to be taken in a glass of water morning and night. Or, if obstinately costive,

Take



Take of Gum guaiacum,

Socotrine aloes, of each a drachm,

Kermes mineral,

Yellow emetic mercury, of each a scruple,

Guaiacine balsam, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four; two to be taken night and morning.

Externally,

Take of Calomel, two scruples,

Tar ointment, an ounce,

Extract of lead, fifteen drops,

An ointment, with which the ulcer is to be dressed twice a day for two or three weeks, and then to complete the cure, an ointment composed of equal parts of the tar ointment and epulotic cerate, which is only to be used once a day, and a bandage bound over the ulcer as tight as it can be borne. Or,

Take of Sublimate, two grains,

☞ Spirits of sea salt, two drops,

Rose water, five ounces,

A lotion, lint dipped in this to be applied night and morning.

## C O N T R A C T I O N S.

**C**ONTRACTION of the tendons, particularly that of Achilles, is a common cause of lameness, especially in children, though this cause is often overlooked.

The use of many limbs (when long lost) has been recovered when the patient could not touch the ground with his heel, by the following simple liniment. Take the yolk of a new laid egg, carefully cleared from the white, beat it up with six spoonfuls of spring water, let the thigh and leg be bathed with it morning and night, for some weeks. The effects are equally amazing and incredible.

P A R A L Y T I C

## PARALYTIC AFFECTION *of the* LEGS.

**A**PPLY a large vesicatory to the os sacrum and loins.  
Electricity, much exercise, strait stockings, liberal use  
of the flesh-brush, dry vomit, cold bath.

See PALSY.

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## DISORDERS *peculiar to* FEMALES.

### CHLOROSIS.

**T**HE Green Sickness, as it is commonly called, is a  
distemper that attacks females generally before pu-  
berty, and sometimes (if there is no eruption of the catame-  
nia) long after. It is also termed Febris alba & Morbus  
virginæus.



*The cause.* A deficiency of vital heat, a predominant acid in the stomach, a lentor of the blood, vitiated quality of it, an over proportionate quantity of serum, pining, inactivity, dyspepsia, too profuse secretion of the succus pancreaticus, vegetables, fruit, sugar, deficiency of bile.

*The diagnostics.* A fallow, pallid, or livid countenance; laxity of the muscular fibres, inflated eye-lids, swelling of the ancles, and sometimes of the abdomen; indolence, aversion from exercise, especially running or walking fast; the respiration difficult and anhelous, pica or malacia, cephalalgia, a palpitation of the heart, green stools, sour breath.

*The prognostics.* This chronical disorder is sometimes of long continuance, without producing any remarkable ill consequences; sometimes schirrosities proceed from it; it is rarely difficult of cure; menstruation often carries it off. Feeding on chalk, tobacco-pipes, and such like, is not the cause, but the effect of this disease.

*The cure.* The regimen should be the same as in *Weakness of the Solids*. First give an emetic, the properest is a grain and half of blue vitriol, not drinking any thing to work it off; the best time to take it is in the morning fasting; afterwards

wards uterine cathartics and corroborants, especially chalybeates : the cold bath may be used to advantage. Exercise is necessary. Some bleed in the Saphoena, but to lessen the quantity of that important fluid in such cases, as has already been often observed, is inexcusable indiscretion.

From the subsequent tribes an efficacious formula may be easily contrived.

The gums, as ammoniac, galbanum, sagapenum, opoponax, guaiacum, assa foetida, olibanum, myrrh, benjamin, styrax, mastic, frankincense.

Aromatics, as Winter's bark, cinnamon, ginger, zedoary, all piperines, cloves, nutmegs, and such like.

Bitters, as gentian, galangal, centaury, aloes, chamomile, carduus benedictus, which yields a pleasant bitter in a cold infusion, round birth-wort, orange peel, &c.

Emmenagogues, as savin, castor, dittany of Crete, borax, penny-royal, rue, mugwort, white bryony root, stinking orchid, black hellebore, salt of amber, salt of steel, calomel, balsam of capivi, or compound powder of myrrh. See  
MENSES SUPPRESSED.

W H I T E S.

## W H I T E S.

**T**HIS is a disorder females of all ages are subject to.

The *cause*. A laxity of the glandular fibres of the lacunæ, suppression of the menstrual discharge, sprains of the loins, hard labor, hypercatharsis, profuse bleeding, blows, falls, weakness of the solids.

The *diagnostics*. A constant oozing from the os externum uteri of a white matter, sometimes thin, yellow, or brown; foetid, sensation of heat in making urine, syncopes, anorexia, pain in the back and loins, increased by exercise, atrophy, Hypocratic countenance.

The *prognostics*. It is not very easy of cure. Women are generally troubled with it a great while before they apply for assistance: to this natural bashfulness they owe more bad consequences than they ever suspected. It is often productive of many dreadful disorders, which might with great facility



facility have been prevented; as consumption, proidentia uteri, dropfy, internal ulcers; &c.

The *cure*. The most nourishing diet is necessary, as milk, meat broths, shell-fish, and such like. For her breakfast, two drachms of isinglass may be boiled in milk. The dry vomit is of considerable service, as also are lenient cathartics, magnesia, agglutinants, lime-water, and spa-water. The most proper astringents are tormentil root, aromatics, rock allum, sugar of lead and chalybeates. Twenty drops of the balsam of capivi may be taken twice a day, or a tea-spoonful of tincture of cantharides, which has an excellent effect.

Take of Gum arabic, two ounces,

Red astringent gum,

Olibanum, of each half an ounce,

Balsam of capivi, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a chesnut night and morning.

Take of Conserve of red roses, two ounces,

Yellow wax, half an ounce,

Rhubarb, two drachms,

Filing

Filings of iron,

Galangal, of each a drachm,

Tincture of cantharides, enough for an electuary,

The size of a nutmeg to be taken twice a day.

Take of Blue vitriol, a scruple, dissolve in

Boiling water, an ounce,

Extract of lead, a scruple,

An injection, to be used warm twice a day. See GLEET.

## H Y S T E R I C S.

**H**YSTERIC Fits, notwithstanding the various shapes they appear in, are too well known to need any description.

The *cause*. An unequal distribution of the vital heat, owing in some measure to the peculiar conformation of the uterus and its adjacent parts ; suppression, or deficiency of the

the menstrual flux, sometimes to its profusion ; delicacy of constitution, luxury, want of exercise, strong inclination to venery, fluor albus, want of blood, acid gas.

The *diagnostics*. Syncopes, catchings, rising of a halitus in the throat, sometimes so as to endanger suffocation ; convulsions, clonus hystericus, quick respiration, laughing, screaming, crying, the hands strongly closed, bawdy expressions, colic, cephalalgia.

The *prognostics*. If the patient has been long troubled with them, they often terminate in a perpetual causeless timidity ; madness, or all the horrors of the hypochondriacal affection, to which this disorder is very similar. It is by no means dangerous, or if scientifically treated, difficult of cure.

The *cure*. All evacuations are deleterious, the dry vomit excepted, which succeeds wonderfully, if frequently repeated, and is propriis viribus sufficient to effect a cure ; but if objected to, the practitioner will find various formulæ, which have proved efficacious, subjoined. Chalybeate waters are highly necessary ; opiates are sometimes so. The cold bath. If the head is affected, let it be shaved and a blister laid over it. See HYPOCHONDRIA, EPILEPSY, and FLATUS.



Take of Salt of wormwood, two scruples,

Pure nitre, a scruple,

Volatile salt of amber, seven grains,

Castor water, an ounce and half,

A draught to be taken every night, for some weeks.

Take of Ginger, half an ounce,

. For six powders. One to be taken night and morning.

Thirty drops of the oil of amber may be taken night and morning. If coltive,

☞ Take of Socotrine aloes,

Filings of iron,

Assa-fœtida, of each two scruples,

Oil of amber, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; two to be taken night and morning.

Take of Galbanum, half an ounce,

Camphire, half a drachm,

Oil of amber, twenty drops.

A plaister to be applied to the navel. If laxative,

Take

Take of Theban extract, half a drachm,

Camphire, a scruple,

Oil of amber, enough for pills,

Number ten ; one to be taken at night, or oftener.

Take of Bark, fix drachms,

Valerian, half an ounce,

Filings of iron, a drachm,

Conserve of rue, an ounce,

Syrup of ginger, enough for an electuary.

Dose, the size of a walnut twice or thrice a day.

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## MENSES SUPPRESSED.

**A**N obstruction of the menstrual flux is either *total*, or *partial*, when there is a small drain, and the colour not florid, nor the appearance regular at the stated times. The same method of cure is requisite.

The *cause*. A deficiency of blood. Some have supposed that an universal plethora may be a concomitant of this disorder ; to speak my own sentiments, I verily believe that it never is the case ; a partial plethora, indeed, or which is the same thing, an unequal distribution of the vital heat often may and doth accompany it.

The *diagnostics*. Anorexia, pale or bloated countenance, fluor albus, cephalalgia, vertigo, palpitation of the heart, pain in the loins and thighs, swelling of the ancles, hysterics. See FLATUS.

The *prognostics*. If it is total, the cure is difficult, but by no means impracticable, as some moderns suspect, unless from a phthisis, or salivation ; in pinguedinous habits, it is of little consequence ; if partial, easily procured ; if symptomatic, the primary cause must be removed.

The *cure*. The dry vomit is of admirable efficacy. For regimen, see WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS. If once the blood is sufficient in quantity there is no fear of the obstruction being removed. Balsam of Capivi is an excellent auxiliary. See CHLOROSIS. One remark may not be amiss, viz. that if no extraordinary inconvenience attends the too *little* or



too *great* discharge of this sort, it is best not to interfere by the use of medicines, but leave nature entirely to herself.

☞ Take of Socotrine aloes, a drachm,  
Filings of iron, two scruples,  
Kermes mineral, half a drachm,  
Calomel, a scruple,  
Oil of favine, enough for pills,

Number thirty-two; two to be taken every night, or oftener.

Take of Tincture of martial flowers,  
Tincture of melampodium, of each an ounce,

Of these drops let two tea-spoonfuls be taken twice a day.

**MENSES**

## MENSES IMMEDIATE.

**T**HE menstrual discharge is sometimes so profuse as to super-induce a large tribe of the most formidable disorders.

*The cause.* Weakness of the solids; consequently a want of elasticity in the fibres of the mouths of the uterine, or vaginal arteries, and deficiency of vital heat.

*The diagnostics.* Laxity of the muscular fibre, thin, light, rank hair, flabbiness of the flesh, pallid countenance, syncope, anorexia, swelled ancles, cachexy.

*The prognostics.* If after abortion, parturition; or if the patient is above fifty years of age, it must be very profuse to prove dangerous. If the age is about thirty, and it is succeeded by a spontaneous total suppression, it is always fatal. If of long continuance, and always immoderate at

the

the periodical returns, and the patient under forty, it cannot be restrained too soon.

The *cure*. It is surprising that all practitioners, who have wrote on this subject, propose phlebotomy, by way of revulsion forsooth; such practice cannot be too much execrated. A vomit is a more speedy, more effectual, and far safer remedy. For regimen, see WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS. The exercise should be very gentle. The medicines necessary are agglutinants, astringents, corroborants, and sometimes opiates. A cloth, dipped in vinegar, may be laid on the abdomen, or loins.

Take of Gum arabic, two ounces, dissolve in

Pure water, a pint.

Of this mixture let a tea-cupful be taken two or three times in a day, or as often as there is occasion. Give a scruple of roch allum every half hour till it vomits; afterwards as much of the red astringent gum, as often as is necessary. She may eat of conserve of red roses to the quantity of half an ounce in a day. To prevent a return,

Take



Take of Bark, an ounce,  
Mastic, half an ounce,  
Filings of iron, a drachm,  
Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary.

The size of a nutmeg to be taken night and morning.

Take of Rectified spirit, six drachms,  
Oil of turpentine, two drachms,  
Strong spirit of vitriol, one drachm.

Of these drops, twenty or thirty may be taken morning and night.

Take of Olibanum, a drachm and an half,  
Cinnamon, half a drachm,  
Venice turpentine, enough for pills,

Number twenty-four ; three to be taken night and morning.

If costive,

✎ Take of Conserve of red roses, an ounce and an half,  
Yellow wax, half an ounce,  
Rhubarb, two drachms,

Galangal,

Galangal,

Filings of iron, of each one drachm,

Syrup of ginger, enough for an electuary.

Dose, the size of a nutmeg twice a day.

### FALLING DOWN *of the* WOMB.

**T**HE Falling down of the Womb is owing to a relaxation of its ligaments, or to some violence used in labour.

The *cause*. Falls, strains, shocks, fluor albus, the forcible (though needness) plucking away the placenta, weakness of the solids.

The *diagnostics*. Great pain when sitting still, or at stool, difficulty of making urine, sometimes convulsions and mortification.

The *prognostics*. If the patient is pregnant, the case is always dangerous; if the part is not reduced, it may turn gangrenous; if the ligaments are broke, scarcely curable.

The *cure*. Let the patient try to reduce it herself, by the means prescribed under Falling down of the Fundament. Or, lay a crown piece, with a small piece of wax-candle, lighted, on the middle of it, on the abdomen; put a tumbler glass over it and the pressure of the air will soon restore it to its proper place. If she is with child, let the abdomen be supported by a bandage. She should be kept lying on her back (with her hips raised and her legs crossed) as long as possible. Use clysters, astringent injections, fomentations, suffumens and pessaries.

See the drops in the last article.

## DISORDERS



DISORDERS *peculiar* to PREGNANCY.

**N**AUSEA and Vomiting. Give frequently twenty drops of acid elixir of vitriol, in a tea-cupful of strong mint tea; or if necessary, opiates. See VOMITING.

Diarrhoea. See that article.

Costiveness from the pressure of the foetus. Administer fat oily clysters. A powder composed of two parts magnesia and one of rhubarb : of this let half a drachm be taken occasionally.

Heart-burn. Two scruples of chalk and one of gum arabic may be taken as often as necessary, if not costive ; if that is the case, give as much magnesia, drinking half a pint of broth after every dose.

Syncopes. Use cardiacs, volatiles, opiates, strong soups and jellies.

Longing. Whatever is craved may be given with safety, and ought by all means to be procured as soon as possible.

Swelling of the ancles, legs, thighs, or breast. Use lenient cathartics, absorbents, diuretics, diaphoretics, opiates, rest : if the legs, they cannot be kept too much in a horizontal position.

Pain in the loins. If from the weight of the foetus, let the abdomen be supported by a bandage. Cardiacs and rest are necessary.

Oedematous tumours of the os externum. Scarification.

Dysury. Agglutinants ; the catheter.

Dyspnoea. See COUGH.

Bearing down. See ABORTION below.

Flux menstrual or haemorrhoidal, treat as at other times.

False conceptions, or moles, leave to nature. If any thing is given, it should be taken from the emmenagogic tribe. Pretty violent exercise may be used.

## ABORTION.

## A B O R T I O N.

**T**HIS and every other disorder to which a woman during the state of her pregnancy is liable, is chiefly, if not entirely, owing to a deficiency of heat and blood ; which may easily be gathered from the consideration of the expence she is at for the nutrition of the foetus, and the formation of its appurtenances : if two ounces of blood were drawn every day from a person ever so healthy for forty weeks together, let it be left to common sense to determine whether such a one can stand in need of supernumerary venaesections during that time.

It is upon this account that their faces appear so thin, their noses pinched in, and various disorders attack them which originate from a deficiency of blood. If a woman with child is bled, says Hypocrates, a miscarriage is endangered ; the larger the foetus, the more certain and expeditious will  
be



be the abortion. Experience confirms the truth of this observation of the divine old man. I knew many ladies who used phlebotomy during their pregnancy and miscarried, but on the omission of it, went out their full time and were delivered of healthy children. That all do not miscarry who are bled is true, and indeed nothing is more to be wondered at than the inexhaustible resources of nature, by which she can recover herself from the consequences of such ill-timed evacuations. To use phlebotomy because her periodical visits disappear, is absurd and puerile, for it cannot be a manly argument that we ought to lavish away that fluid which nature demonstrates her want of, by her care to preserve it. Bleeding, in a word, is always hazardous and improper during pregnancy, and not seldom brings on convulsions and death. To this rash and inexcusable imprudence it is owing that such numbers of women who even go their full time, die in child-bed.

The *causes*. Weakness of the solids, bleeding, blows, falls, frights, disappointments in that which was longed for.

The *diagnostics*. Pain in the back, loins and thighs, bearing down ; cephalalgia, nausea, quick pulse, flatness of the breasts,

breasts, syncopes, dribbling of the waters from the uterus, flooding.

*The prognosis.* If nature is not counteracted, or disturbed by unnecessary interposition, there is seldom any danger of the mother. If the foetus is dead (which may be known by syncopes, cold sweats, flushings, rigor, or the foetus falling from side to side) nothing but mild emmenagogues should be given once or twice a day. It may continue in the uterus three or four weeks without any ill consequence, and it scarce ever exceeds that time before nature will effect its expulsion.

*The cure.* Prevention is all we are capable of in these cases. Where there is a proneness to miscarry, from a laxity of the muscular fibres, or if she has miscarried before, it will be necessary to use the same regimen as that recommended under WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS, and to keep an issue constantly open. I knew a lady who miscarried twice, then opened an issue, and while it continued had three living children; she then suffered it to dry up and again miscarried; it was cut again shortly after, and she bore five strong healthy children; her issue then dried up spontaneously,  
after

after which she miscarried three times successively. The reader is left to make his own observations on this remarkable case. I have often seen amazing effects from the following :

Take of French bole,

Mastic, of each three drachms,

Yellow wax, two drachms,

Cyprus turpentine, enough for a plaister,

To be applied to the loins, and worn during the time of gestation.

Take of Chalk julep, six ounces,

Strong cinnamon water, two ounces,

Juice of kermes, one ounce,

Gum arabic, two drachms,

A mixture, of which let three spoonfuls be taken morning and night.

Take of Canella alba, a scruple,

Ginger, ten grains,

Cordial confection, half a drachm,

A bole, to be taken every night.

Take



Take of Bark, an ounce,  
 Winter's bark, three drachms,  
 Cloves, one drachm,  
 Oil of cinnamon, thirty drops,  
 Mucilage of gum arabic, enough for an electuary,

Dose, the size of a nutmeg morning and night.

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## PARTURITION.

THE usual time of delivery is forty weeks after impregnation. It has been generally supposed that about the eighth month of pregnancy, the head of the foetus growing specifically heavier than the body, falls down on the os internum with its face towards the mother's back, which was before towards her belly. This *tumble*, as the French call it, appears to me to be wholly imaginary, for I never dissected a woman in any state of pregnancy, that the posture of the

foetus was not the same as at the time of delivery, when the birth is natural.

The foetus receives no nourishment but by the umbilical cord, notwithstanding the numerous arguments which that ingenious and truly excellent anatomist Heister has used to prove, that it swallows the alimentary liquor before expulsion ; a sufficient refutation of all which is, that from the consideration of its posture, and incapacity of breathing, it is impossible.

In a natural birth, nothing more is necessary than to support and prevent the laceration of the perinaeum, leaving the rest to nature. In breech presentations, it is needless to alter the posture of the foetus, but in all other preternatural positions, search for and extract it by the feet. If the placenta follows not immediately, use no violence ; the woman may be ordered to bed : there are frequent instances of its continuance in the uterus for twelve, twenty, yea eight and forty hours, without the least ill consequence. What nature will perform in such cases is scarcely within the limits of credibility : when the head of the foetus has been left, she has effected the expulsion of it without any assistance,

and what is still more extraordinary, a living child has been produced from a pelyis, where there have not been two inches between pubes and sacrum. It would be far more eligible for practitioners to watch, wait upon, and gently operate with, than ever to attempt to hurry, or disturb nature in any of the efforts she may make to relieve herself.

In difficult labors, let an emollient clyster be administered. If attended with a suppression of urine, the catheter should be introduced; sternutatories may be used to advantage; sometimes emetics and opiates; strong cardiacs ought not to be omitted.

Take of Balsam of capivi, half an ounce,

The yolks of two eggs,

Linseed oil, six ounces,

An excellent clyster.

Take of Myrrh, a scruple,

Thebaic extract, two grains,

Syrup of saffron, enough for a bole,

To be repeated as there is occasion.



Take of Penny-royal water, fix ounces,

Compound Bryony water, two ounces,

Compound spirits of lavender, half an ounce,

Of this mixture, three spoonfuls should be given every hour, or every half hour, with one of the following powders :

Take of Borax, a drachm and half,

Myrrh, half a drachm,

Make into fix powders.

To procure an easy Labor. A tea-spoonful of the *compound elixir of myrrh*, taken every night for a month before the expected time, is a most certain, safe, and efficacious method, as I have experienced in a prodigious number of cases.

Flooding. Let a cloth, dipped in vinegar, be applied frequently to the abdomen and loins, and be left on 'till it is dry. See *MENSES IMMODERATE*.

Fever

Fever in Child-bed. Let her be kept cool and receive constant supplies of fresh air. Give the emetic tartar in small doses with castor, and cardiacs.

Suppression of the Lochia. Give a scruple of compound powder of myrrh two or three times a day.

## A F T E R - P A I N S .

**A**FTER-PAINS are most severely felt by those women who have had more children than one.

The *cause*. A too quick contraction of the mouths of the uterine arteries; a distention of the ligaments, elastic air, retention of pieces of the coagulated blood.

The

The *diagnostics*. Spasmodic constriction of the loins; shooting pains in the groins, abdomen, or thighs.

The *prognostics*. They are not dangerous, nor difficult to remove; if they cause a suppression of the lochia, use emmenagogues.

The *cure*. Some give half an ounce of oil, not without a good effect. That which is given to drink should be supped very warm. The abdomen ought to be swathed pretty tight. Opiates may be given with safety.

Take of Sperma ceti, half an ounce,

The yolks of two eggs,

Thebaic tincture,

Oil of juniper, of each one drachm,

Penny-royal water, seven ounces,

A mixture; of which let four spoonfuls be given every three hours, 'till the pains go off. Or,

Take of Galbanum,

Myrrh, of each half a drachm,

Thebaic



Thebaic extract, ten grains,

Balsam of Peru, enough to make twelve pills,

One to be taken every hour, till the pain vanishes.

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SORE NIPPLES.

**D**RESS them twice a day with the following liniment :  
it will not disappoint expectation.

Take of Epulotic cerate,

Balsam of Peru, of each two drachms,

A liniment.

DISORDERS

DISORDERS *peculiar to* CHILDREN.

THE disorders incident to children are exceeding few which require any assistance. If they are kept very cool (except in winter) fed sparingly and often ; have their bodies sufficiently open ; be suffered to sleep little in the day time, and almost continually played with and dandled ; in a word, let them not be gorged with victuals, and receive sufficient exercise, and nature will do her own business, without any interference, in all disorders that I know of, excepting those mentioned below. When children have any other complaints, the best advice I can give is, *to do nothing.*

Frequent friction with the hand, and almost perpetual motion on the arm, are the best of all prophylactics.

My

My intention in this (the seventh) edition of my work was to have given more particular and diffusive directions for the management of children, but am well pleased to find that intention superseded by Dr. Underwood's excellent Treatise on the Diseases of Children, a work worthy of the highest commendation, and which I most warmly recommend to the perusal of my reader. There is one thing indeed, in which I cannot agree with him, viz. the *Necessity* of bleeding in the Measles and Hooping Cough. I have only to say, that I never once attended a child in either of those disorders, which died, that had not previously been bled. This *Necessity*, therefore, appears to me problematical. However, if there are any other errors to be met with in this author, I am persuaded that his work is as remarkable for their trivialness and paucity, as Dr. B.'s Domestic Medicine is for their magnitude and number.



RETENTION *of the* MECONIUM.

**I**F the child has no discharge by stool within six hours after its birth, let a tea-spoonful of oil of olives be given to it, or a few grains of manna, or an oleous clyster, or a tea-spoonful of vinous tincture of rhubarb, to be repeated as there is occasion.

## H Y D R O C E P H A L U S.

**H**YDROCEPHALUS, or the Watery Head, the best remedy for, if any, is a perpetual blister. It must not be opened; if it is, the child will be irrecoverably lost.

HYDRO-

## HYDROCEPHALUS INTERNUS.

THIS disorder is commonly called the Dropfy of the Brain, because on difsection there is found below the corpus callosum a bag of water generally as large as a goose egg, or two or three ounces of water extravasated on each side of the falx. It greatly resembles the worm fever, these particular diagnostics excepted, constant moaning, shrieking, intolerance of light, enlargement of the pupil, strabismus and frequent lifting of the hand to the head. *It is always mortal.* The cause (if not preceded by a blow, or pulling the hair) is unknown. I was once in a town where this distemper was exceeding rife. It never attacks any one after the age of puberty. As all attempts are vain, it is pity to give the unhappy patient the least painful sensation: blisters are entirely useless. They often live in this pitiable and shocking state 'till the fifteenth or seventeenth day after the first invasion. The only prospect is from mercurials.

## C O N V U L S I O N S.

**I**F symptomatic, the removal of the primary disorder which occasions them is the first object. Those that are most common generally yield to the following:

Take of Simple peppermint water, an ounce and a half,

Salt of wormwood, two scruples,

Balsamic syrup, half an ounce,

A tea-spoonful night and morning, or three or four times a day as there is occasion.

If primary,

Take of Tincture of *assa foetida*, half an ounce,

Give ten drops every two or three hours.

Take of New milk, an ounce,

Simple peppermint-water, half an ounce,

Tincture of *assa foetida*, a drachm,

For a clyster.

The



The above clyster may be given with vast advantage in all convulsive disorders of children.

Note. The salt of wormwood has all the *good* effects of absorbents, besides; keeping open the alvine tube and urinary canals, it entirely precludes their use. In a diarrhoea, chalk may be used, which is the best of the whole tribe.

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## S C R O P H U L A.

HAVING already treated of the Evil, I should not have resumed the subject, but on account of recommending a medicine which has *perfectly* cured infinite numbers of scrophulous children. Yet a very eminent physician has asserted in print *that mercurials are of no service*: I asked him, if he had used them for any length of time? His reply was, not at all, but several physicians had asserted the same. I

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think

think my *assertion*, which arises from trials and invariable success in those trials, demands as much attention.

Take of Corrosive sublimate, ten grains,

☞ Spirit of sea salt, ten drops,

Rose water, half an ounce,

Of these drops, let three be given to a child from two to four years old every night, or even four drops, if they do not purge (for they must not run off by stool) and the use of them continued for several months, till quite well. I have seen the most astonishing and incredible cures performed by them.

Glandular tumors in the neck, &c. will sometimes be dissolved by the tar ointment, rubbed in morning and night. If they lessen not in five, or six days,

Take of Camphire, half an ounce,

Oil of olives, three drachms,

Aniseeds, one drachm.

A liniment, to be used three or four times a day.

If it still continues to swell, or begins to look red, apply a poultice of bread and milk *only*, repeating it three or four times a day, and let one be laid on at bed-time, to be kept on all night. This progress to be continued till it breaks, and for a day or two after ; then dress, as you will find under the article *EVIL*, which see.

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### T O O T H I N G.

**I**N six or seven months after birth, children commonly begin to shew signs of dentition. It is often accompanied with some very untoward symptoms, as violent pain, symptomatic fever, convulsions, partial palsies, and a severe diarrhoea. I have seen children loose the use of an arm, of a leg, and sometimes of both, 'till the tooth was through, and then recover immediately, without any medical assistance. The signs of cutting their teeth are, swelling of the gums, flaving, looseness, restlessness, and a symptomatic fever.

Though



Though opiates are improper for such tender frames, yet in this case (if in any one) they may be allowed, as it is always attended with some danger; no small care is requisite to assist nature through this troublesome process. Among the many ill effects which a liberal use of Godfrey's Cordial (too often made use of by indolent nurses) or any other opiate, produces in children, may be reckoned costiveness, which is the worst habit of body a child can be subject to.

Rub the inflamed gum hard and often with a lump of sugar, even till it bleeds, or give a child a piece of liquorice root to mumble, or divide the gum with a gum-lancet, to facilitate the passage of the tooth.

There are few disorders to which children are liable that are not either caused by, or attended with a predominant acid in their stomach and bowels, partly owing to the quick fermentation of the milk in their stomachs, but chiefly to that pernicious ingredient, sugar, in their victuals; this is evident from the sourness of their breath and stools, and the green colour of the latter.

Magnesia

Magnesia alba should be given to them, not sparingly, if constive; chalk, powdered, if laxative; which two are the only medicines necessary for them while they are suckled.

Perhaps it may not be amiss to observe, that five or six months are long enough for any child to suck with the least advantage to itself, or without manifest detriment to the mother.

## W O R M - F E V E R.

AS this Fever is only symptomatic, bleeding is unnecessary and improper. A spoonful of the oil of castor may be given with great advantage; or a few grains of nitre, or salt of wormwood, two or three times a day. If the fever remits, give the bark, than which there is scarce a better vermifuge. For common drink, water, sweetened with honey, and acidulated with lemon juice. Of all the

various medicines which are used in this case, perhaps none will prove more successful than the following powders :

Take of Scammony, ten grains,

Calomel, three grains,

To be given occasionally. Or,

☞ Take of Æthiops mineral, a drachm,

Rhubarb, half a drachm,

Emetic tartar, two grains,

For six powders ; one to be taken twice a day.

Take of Indian pink roots, an ounce,

Divide into three parts ; of one part make an infusion, by boiling water ; two or three tea-cupfuls to be taken at once, and repeated occasionally.

N. B. This disorder is not uncommon with adults, especially females.

T U S S I S



## TUSSIS CONVULSIVA.

**T**HE Hooping, or Chin-Cough, as it is called, is dangerous, on account of those spasms of the lungs wherewith it is always attended, and from whence that matter is ejected, when the children hoop and strain, and not from the stomach, as is vulgarly supposed.

Take of Emetic tartar, five grains,

Water, an ounce and half,

Balsamic syrup, two drachms.

A mixture; a tea-spoonful to be taken every half hour, till it pukes, and repeated every other morning.

Ten drops of the balsam of capivi, on sugar, twice a day, ought not to be omitted. Sperma-ceti, dissolved in broth, is useful; so also is an electuary, composed of nettle-seeds and honey; the assa-foetida, were it less nauseous,

is inferior to no medicine. Nitre is useful, as also is salt of wormwood. They should be kept as warm as possible. The exercise of swinging is peculiarly serviceable to them. Oil of amber, or garlick, rubbed on the spina dorfi every night, will have a wonderful effect, or a Burgundy pitch plaster, to be worn constantly between the shoulders. See COUGH.

Emetics, eccoprotics, antacids, antispasmodics, as valerian, gum ammoniac, castor, musk, &c. are all of considerable utility, and opiates, if not costive. As a plethoric child is a sort of prodigy, I cannot conceive what phlebotomy has to do in this, or any other disorder, to which children are liable; whatever their ailments are, the lancet may well be dispensed with. I have seen many, too many instances, in which their lives have been sacrificed to the use of it.

Take of Salt of wormwood, two scruples,

☞ Simple mint water, an ounce and half,

Balsamic syrup, half an ounce,

A tea or pap-spoonful to be taken night and morning.

## W A T E R Y G R I P E S.

**I**N this disorder not more than *two* doses of rhubarb ought to be premised, before recourse is had to astringents, such as the compound powder of amber, which is second to none; it may be given in the quantity of five grains twice or thrice a day. Chalk may be freely given, and any alcalis. The inmost peel of a walnut, powdered, and given at pleasure, is excellent; or powder of unripe black-berries. In the decline of this, and the foregoing disease, large quantities of the bark, in decoction, should be used, to confirm and perfect their health and strength.

SCALD



## S C A L D H E A D.

**L**ET the head be shaved, if it can be performed with any tolerable convenience, and apply of tar-ointment, an ounce, with two scruples of calomel, rubbing it well in night and morning.

Take of Tobacco, two ounces, boil in

Water, a pint,

Till about an ounce is evaporated; then strain, and add an ounce of ley. Let a cloth be dipped in this mixture, warmed, and the head be moistened with it each time, previous to the application of the ointment, and the cruel operation of plucking out the roots of the hair, will be totally unnecessary.

During the cure small quantities of antimonials and mercurials, combined, will be found extremely serviceable,

or

or the solution of sublimate, or the mixture under SCURVY, which see ; but none of them are absolutely necessary. The above topics may be safely trusted to alone.

### CUTICULAR ERUPTIONS.

THESE are very common with children, and are no very unpromising prognostic. They indicate a proper attempt of nature to throw off something that is offensive, consequently they ought to be promoted, and by no means to be repelled by any evacuations whatever. Bleeding or purging would be equally injurious. In this case animal food, with plenty of salt, is necessary. My eldest son, at the age of four years, had a violent eruption all over his body, which soon disappeared without any medicines, by  
the

the liberal use of salt and gravy. No diet is so proper for children as that of animal substance; and the healthiest children I ever saw, were those who had been used to it from the time that they were four or five months old. The meat should be minced small, but not be deprived of its most nutritious juices, by being previously and filthily mouthed by the nurse. If children had nothing given to them but milk, or half cows milk and half water, till they began to teethe, without either bread or sugar, and afterwards were indulged in the use of animal, with very little vegetable food, we should rarely find any disorders among them. Vegetables require too operose a process for their tender organs to elaborate into nutritious chyle. See SCURVY, and the mixture and liniment, under that article.

# **RICKETS.**



## R I C K E T S.

**T**HIS is a disease that affects the bones of children; the head is sometimes enlarged to an enormous size, the wrists and ancles seem protuberant, and as the bones increase in size, the child grows weaker; indeed, every fibre is distended beyond its proper dimension, for the solids are by no means a match for the fluids. It is chiefly, if not wholly, owing to the sloth and nastiness of the nurse. Those children who are much dandled and danced, kept clean, and frequently in motion, carried sometimes on one and sometimes on the other arm, will be for ever strangers to this disorder.

For the cure, emetics and rhabarbine purgatives being premised, give chalybeates, the bark, change of air, plenty of exercise, which is absolutely necessary, and let the child be plunged into cold water every morning; but never give it a second, much less a third dip, as is the foolish custom of some. For regimen, see WEAKNESS of the SOLIDS.

AS a promise is sacred, however unfairly extorted, it would be unkind for the reader to impute the insertion of the following petit piece, to the vanity of the author :

*To the Author of the Art of Healing.*

Long had Philosophy lain hid in night,  
Till sapient *Newton* rose, and all was light :  
So Phyfic hobbled on, with crippled pace,  
Veil'd in dark terms, or cover'd with grimace,  
Till MARRYAT laid her open to the view,  
With Truth adorn'd her, and with Reason too.

SHARMAN HARROLD.

*Antrim, August 24, 1766.*

APPENDIX.

## A P P E N D I X.

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**B**EFORE I take my final leave of the reader, for hic  
coelstus artemque repono, it is necessary to obviate  
an objection which must naturally arise, viz. Why is no  
notice taken of several medicines *now* very much in vogue,  
and sanctioned by great authority? It will not lessen my  
reader's surprize, when I assure him, that my intention was  
to render the foregoing work as complete a therapeutic  
thesaurus as is consistent with the imperfection of humanity.  
Under e very article of disease, every combination, and even



every atom of matter, that has a tendency to the removal of said disease, is strictly and accurately marked, their powers discriminated, and even the precarious ones have generally admittance, as auxiliaries. I have furnished the tyro with all necessary tools, and given him as plain rules for the use of them, as the nature of things would permit; his own *observation* and *experience* will perfect the workman, that need not to be ashamed. I will not scruple to assert, that any man, who is a good anatomist, by the assistance of this work alone, and the two above-mentioned qualities, may become as useful a practitioner as any Physician in Europe.

The reason why these fashionable medicines have not figured in my work, is, because, after giving them fair trials, i. e. by themselves, I either found them unequal to the character they bore, or productive of some worse consequences than the disorder itself. The only fair way of trying a medicine is, to give it *alone*; or how can we ascertain its effects with precision? When a variety of ingredients are administered, he must have a sharper medical acumen than the Evangelist Luke, to assign an effect to the *real* cause,

cause, distinct from its associates, when, perhaps, it was, as is often the case, owing to the combination itself. However, to particularise some; and, first,

S A R S A P A R I L L A.

**T**HAT it has come into general use, one would think must be owing to its indisputable merit. There is scarce an old lady who will refuse her eulogium to this famous diet-drink, as a most excellent sweetener of the blood, &c. Apothecaries take its virtues for granted, and are, by no means, sparing in the preparation of it. For my own part, I must acknowledge a prepossession in its favour, and was, therefore, equally disappointed and mortified, to find all its boasted pretensions vox & praeterea nihil. Let any one, in similar cases, give as strong a decoction as he pleases, of the farfa, to one person, and the same sort of water alone to another, their effects will be found precisely the same. I have never been fortunate  
enough

enough to see any advantages, which have accrued from its exhibition by others, to those who have taken it, even for a very considerable length of time before they applied to me.

The *China root* has been joined to it, with equal benefit. I am persuaded that an equal weight of small stones boiled in water would produce as desirable an alteration in the fluids as either of these celebrated medicines.

---

C I C U T A.

**T**HE well-known poisonous qualities of the Hemlock, were no defence against the intrepidity of a German physician from pressing it into the medicinal service. Volunteers are much better subjects of eligibility. It is wonderful and almost incredible what repeated trials have been made



made of it, after repeated defeats. The authority of a Storke made us look for the cause of our disappointment in every circumstance but the real one, want of merit in the subject. The extract was procured from Vienna, and used with the same success as our indigenous plant. Yet still it is in vogue, and has even a place as an officinal in that wonderful production, the Edinburgh Pharmacopoea. For my own part, I never experienced one single *good* effect from it; some untoward ones I acknowledge. What is still more extraordinary, I never met with any of my brethren who have not confessed the same disappointment, when it was relied on alone. It is even used in hooping coughs, as if adapted to the tender frames of children. When the fashionable rage for using uncommon medicines abates, this will sink into the same silent contempt with saffron, large draughts of crude mercury, and the use of tar-water for the cure of corns.

## SOLANUM

## SOLANUM LETHALE.

**F**OR *this* we are obliged to a surgeon who was hardy enough to step out of his road, that he might figure away as one of the wonderful physicians of the age, and be able to administer a poison without doing mischief. Peace to his manes, though he went beyond his last. Yet I cannot help observing that even this deleterious and worse than worthless plant, is an officinal in the Edinburgh Pharmacopoea; in the same extraordinary production we find hitched up in respectable positions, the Wolf's Bane, Barba Jovis, Uva Ursi, &c. The Scotch apothecaries, so inured to the use of poisons, it may be expected, will in time like Mithridates, be able to dispatch a person by breathing on him. To be sure, there is no place in the world comparable with that sweet town for acquiring the art of healing. This the Scotch have often assured the public is the case, and they must

must be the best judges of their own abilities. The immense number of subjects they have for dissection must render them expert anatomists. The clinical lectures of the experienced physicians must have a surprising effect on the attendant tyro, especially when he hears the physician pronounce *ex cathedra*, that the patient may be now discharged from the hospital, being perfectly recovered; though said patient should obstinately persist in asserting, that he was no better than when he first came in. How must such *common* cases magnify the professor's deep judgment, and medical science, in manifesting a knowledge so superior to the feelings of another. With what satisfaction must the pupil, when he graduates, take the oath, that he will always think of it as the wisest, speak of it as the best, and write of it as the most illustrious and useful seminary under heaven; that he will exert all his powers to support its reputation, and spread its fame. *Non orbis gentem, &c.* as Sterne well translates :

Earth no such folks, no folks have such a town  
As Edinburgh.—Sing derry, derry down.



I have actually known some physicians, who have travelled through other countries, besides Scotland, and have read other treatises, besides Scotch productions, and not the worse practitioners for these excentricities.

It may be thought presumption in me to lift up my head before such an awful appearance of the greatest men in the world; yet, I cannot stifle a wish, that, however free they may be in the use of poisons themselves, that they would expunge them from their Dispensatory, and not leave them indiscriminately in the use of every hand. We have materials enough to answer every end in view, without any possible bad effect; therefore, let us cast to the bats and moles the deadly night-shade.

DIGITALIS.

## D I G I T A L I S.

**T**HE fox-glove is another officinal also of the same stupendous fore-mentioned production. It is true, I had not used it for more than twenty years past, having, long before that time, stamped my black mark upon it, as I did upon all those drugs which did not produce an effect, (being used singly) on repeated trials, answerable to their general character. What tempted me to resume a trial of *this*, was, its being brought into great vogue by a very eminent physician of this town (Birmingham.) It must be acknowledged, that I heard of no person, who survived, or recovered their health, after taking it; but that must be considered as an immaterial circumstance, as this is a town in which people will die, sometimes, whether from perverseness, or whatever other cause. It was extolled as a

most powerful diuretic ; and, consequently, capable, at least, of producing very important effects. From such recommendation, and such authority, who could resist a fresh appeal ? The person who so warmly promoted, and so liberally prescribed, the use of this plant, had not only his education at that most illustrious seminary, Edinburgh, but had himself also, like Solomon, wrote on every herb of the field, from hyssop to the cedar, and a wiser than Solomon was he ; for his Jewish Majesty was never wise enough to assist at filling that most useful machine, an air-balloon. As I always regarded *myself* as the properest subject to try hazardous experiments on ; finding myself anasarcaous, with extravasated water in the folds of the mediastinum, and in several other parts of my body, I thought there could not be a fairer opportunity to give the Digitalis a probability of exerting its powers, especially as I laboured, at the same time, under a dysury. I ordered an infusion of half an ounce to a pint, and took a wine glass every hour, till my pint was exhausted, and neither eat or drank any thing that day : it was on that remarkable day when Mr. Harper *was* to have ascended in his balloon. It manifested no evacuating



power on *me*, and the only effect I experienced was an increase of my dysury, for two or three days after, and a most distressing vertigo, which did not leave me for ten days. I afterwards used one of my own formulae, under the article dropsy, viz. the pills, which perfectly restored me to health. As the *gamboge* will answer every good end with *this*; the elaterium, lactuca sylvestris, or any of the tribe, without any possible *bad* effect, why should we run the hazard of poisoning people? For my own part, my conscience will never suffer me to prescribe it for another, after having experienced such pernicious effects from it myself. I must add, that I never yet knew, or heard, of any person who lived long after using it.

Here I cannot avoid addressing the novice with the greatest seriousness; as to mis-lead is an error of the most awful magnitude; if you find, in the foregoing pages, all the materials necessary and efficacious, which have been repeatedly tried, and as often found to answer the end proposed, is it then consistent with reason, or the least propriety of behaviour, wantonly to have recourse to medicines of suspicious or of no virtue, as the *sassa* and china root, or  
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(which



(which is infinitely worse) to those whose known properties are deleterious, and their good effects by no means established by frequent experience ; in the first case, you are unpardonably trifling with your patient ; in the second, you are exposing your own ignorance, defeating your main intention ; and, in sober sadness, meriting a halter. Let the *tuto*, *cito*, and *jucundé*, be ever in view, and rest assured, that as, in mechanics, what is got in power is lost in time ; so, whatever is got in the *cito* is lost in the *tuto*. Be not then ravished with the whistling of a name, nor call any man Rabbi, but think for yourself, and dare be honest. I hate the petulance of a didactic style ; and, therefore, beg of you to act just as you please, which I am persuaded you will do, let me say what I will.

However, if a few hints from an old, and not unsuccessful Physician, may incline you to think rightly, you are welcome to them. The Art of Healing is not to be *taught* by any man ; precepts and examples too, in this case, are insufficient ; it is to be *learned* by observation and experience, by the ingenuous mind only, cultivated by a liberal education, and always open to conviction. Notwithstanding

my attachment to formulae, it must be confessed, the alteration of a single grain is sometimes of the last importance. To *adapt* a medicine is a secret that will ever remain locked up in the bosom of the skilful Physician. Many old women know the effects of drugs, but to *apply* them with propriety, accuracy, and, consequently, efficacy, is *his* alone. A little salt, oil, brandy, ginger, &c. *properly* given, have saved the lives of many; in the hands of ignorance they could have answered no end.

There is a *self-corrective* power in all nature; or, to speak more philosophically, a constant tendency to a restoration of the equilibrium. If the sun is drawn some thousands of miles from his center of gravity, by the approximation of too many planets to a right line with him; on their recession he will soon recover his wonted station. Storms, whirlwinds, tornados, and earthquakes, are effects of the same cause. In plants, the same *self-corrective* power predominates, and in all the animal creation. This power to restore the lost equilibrium is bestowed by the Deity on all bodies, animate or inanimate, commonly called the power of *nature*. In all disorders of the human frame, the operations of nature

(which is infinitely worse) to those whose known properties are deleterious, and their good effects by no means established by frequent experience; in the first case, you are unpardonably trifling with your patient; in the second, you are exposing your own ignorance, defeating your main intention; and, in sober sadness, meriting a halter. Let the *tuto*, *cito*, and *jucundé*, be ever in view, and rest assured, that as, in mechanics, what is got in power is lost in time; so, whatever is got in the *cito* is lost in the *tuto*. Be not then ravished with the whistling of a name, nor call any man Rabbi, but think for yourself, and dare be honest. I hate the petulance of a didactic style; and, therefore, beg of you to act just as you please, which I am persuaded you will do, let me say what I will.

However, if a few hints from an old, and not unsuccessful Physician, may incline you to think rightly, you are welcome to them. The Art of Healing is not to be *taught* by any man; precepts and examples too, in this case, are insufficient; it is to be *learned* by observation and experience, by the ingenuous mind only, cultivated by a liberal education, and always open to conviction. Notwithstanding



my attachment to formulae, it must be confessed, the alteration of a single grain is sometimes of the last importance. To *adapt* a medicine is a secret that will ever remain locked up in the bosom of the skilful Physician. Many old women know the effects of drugs, but to *apply* them with propriety, accuracy, and, consequently, efficacy, is *his* alone. A little salt, oil, brandy, ginger, &c. *properly* given, have saved the lives of many; in the hands of ignorance they could have answered no end.

There is a *self-corrective* power in all nature; or, to speak more philosophically, a constant tendency to a restoration of the equilibrium. If the sun is drawn some thousands of miles from his center of gravity, by the approximation of too many planets to a right line with him; on their recession he will soon recover his wonted station. Storms, whirlwinds, tornados, and earthquakes, are effects of the same cause. In plants, the same *self-corrective* power predominates, and in all the animal creation. This power to restore the lost equilibrium is bestowed by the Deity on all bodies, animate or inanimate, commonly called the power of *nature*. In all disorders of the human frame, the operations of nature

ture are powerful ; she is exceeding busy and industrious to set to rights that which is amiss ; and, in fact, is the *sole* performer of that salutary work. To assist her is our whole business. I do not arrogate to myself the cure of diseases, for I never cured one in my life ; yet I have helped nature to remove infinite numbers, which she could not have effected without my aid ; when even the powers of nature are effete, they are to be renovated by medicine ; and, when her path is totally blocked up, it is to be opened by proper means. It is beyond measure strange, that Dr. Buchan should speak so languidly of the power of medicine, who must know what *alterations* are to be made in the human frame by a few grains of cantharides, opium, mercury, antimony, or blue vitriol. The sole business of the Physician is to watch nature, to notice her endeavours to expel what is inimical, and by the emunctory she chuses ; never to impede, obstruct, or burthen her power, but kindly refocillate, strengthen, assist, clear her passage, and impel her efforts. To give this impulse is an art *indeed*, the true, the only art of healing. Nature will perform things incredible. I knew an instance, in which, without any assistance,

assistance, she expelled the head of a foetus from a contracted uterus, whose body had been previously torn away by the temerarious violence of the hasty operator. . If we are not clear in our views of the intention of nature, it is better to wait and do nothing, except to amuse the friends of the patient. I have often found my account in such practice. When we see her design, let us push it with vigor, and she will amply repay our obliging services. Numbers of children perish every day, by medicines indiscreetly given, who, if left to nature, might have become ornaments; or at least, useful members of society. How many adults destroy, or shorten their existence, from the rage to live, exciting them to the use of quack medicines ! I have often thought of the wonder Sir William Temple expresses at the swarms of people that issued from the North, and how that dreary region should become so populous : he might easily have accounted for this phaenomenon, if he had recollected that they had no prescribing nurses, or in fact, any medical practitioners among them. It was well observed of a soldier, on finding a horse-shoe, and sticking it in his girdle, when a ball struck it flatted and fell, that a little bit of



armor would do, if it were well *placed*. In like manner a very little medicine will do, if it is well placed and well timed. To gorge a patient with medicines (with humble submission to Messieurs Apothecaries) is equally unjust and cruel. I will not pursue a subject so disagreeable and inviolous, but leave it to my reader's own good sense to make what comments he pleases on it.

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### SALT of WORMWOOD.

**A**S the Caledonian doctors have adopted all manner of poisons to be reserved in the repository of those prudent and cautious gentry the apothecaries, to be used indiscriminately, at their discretion, it is no wonder, that they should reject, or speak coolly of the most innocent and useful medicines. One of their professors says, he never saw any

any good effects from the Salt of Wormwood. Amazing indeed ! I have been much more fortunate than that unlucky artist, for I can with truth affirm, that in many thousands of cases, in intermittents and hectic particularly, in almost all other fevers ; in all fevers of children, in the whooping cough, and in all painful disorders\*, it has proved, propriis viribus, efficacious. It is indeed the best attenuant of viscosity in the materia medica. In obstinate head-achs which have resisted the united force of every other drug, this has soon effected a perfect cure. See article CEPHALALGIA. For children there is scarce any other medicine necessary (rhubarb excepted) to the years of puberty. It is an excellent anthelmintic. It has all the virtues of the absorbent powders, without any of their bad effects, and ought to be substituted for them. There is, I must add, some difference between this and the salt of tartar, as the one will turn milk, and the other will not.

It may not be improper to observe here, that the calx of antimony is not merely *fuch* as has been with too much confidence asserted. The deflagration of antimony with a

\* See Lobb, on Painful Disorders.

larger quantity of nitre than is used in this process, will not totally destroy the activity of the mineral.

In like manner the aethiop's mineral is (though lately taken for granted as useless) a very active medicine. In cutaneous disorders, especially of children, it is one of the best we have. The sulphur, though it clogs and chokes the action of the mercury, does not render it entirely effete. I have seen some demonstrative proofs of its decomposition in the human body. I could mention several medicines which our forefathers justly valued, which are now expunged from modern compositions. We have enough left to answer every desirable purpose, without having recourse to those which are fallacious, dangerous and destructive.

**RHUBARB.**



## R H U B A R B.

**T**HIS is indeed the magnum dei donum. The virtues of rhubarb are as great in number as in magnitude. For children, in almost all their disorders (excepting the salt of wormwood) it is almost the only medicine necessary. It not only keeps open the alvine tube, but by its astringent quality, kindly conjoined by nature with its purgative power, gives elasticity to the fibres of the stomach and bowels, so necessary to those tender frames.

In anasarca and incipient dropfies, in ictical and most bowel complaints (in adults) it may safely be confided to alone: in more advanced stages of either, the addition of gamboge in the former, and of antimony in the latter, is sufficient to subdue the most refractory.

It should be given in much smaller doses (and repeated at least twice a day) than it is generally administered, and con-  
tinued.

tinued for a long time, to effect those wonderful cures which I have often seen it operate. I have been twice indebted to the continuance of my existence to this drug alone. The scientific practitioner will, I doubt not, avail himself of these hints, but I can give no directions to the unlearned with respect to its use, which would be of the least service to him.

## T H E B A R K.

**T**HE Peruvian Bark is a drug of very considerable power and efficacy. Yet I am persuaded, that it is so indiscriminately administered, as to have produced more bad than good consequences. If given in *costive habits*, or when it runs off by stool, it is always productive of mischievous consequences. It is indeed, and justly a favorite medicine,

but by no means a panacea. Effects have been ascribed to it from too fond a partiality, which it is not capable of. That it will stop mortifications has been generally asserted; from many instances I have been eye-witness to, this power is very suspicious. Opiates we know will do this, and it is much safer to trust to *them*. It is a noble medicine, and too much can scarcely be said in its commendation, yet like other powerful drugs, if it is not of real service, it must do much harm, as I have too often seen. Where we find the *good* effects of it, let it be repeated in large quantities, and we cannot err. If it does not *soon* produce such effects, discontinue its use. It is not to be trifled with. The *best* way of administering it is in substance. The red bark seems to possess all the *good* properties of the *common* in less bulk. The salt of wormwood will remove periodical pains when the Bark fails. In like manner, in fixed pains of the stomach, or periodical ones, when the Bark is useless, the blue vitriol will effect a cure. In costive habits, when the bark has been indiscreetly given to no purpose, aloetics will perfectly answer the end. The Bark is a noble strengthener, when:



when it does not irritate the bowels. It requires much prudence and caution in the administration, more than any drug whatsoever, to render it (as in such hands it generally is) admirably efficacious.

## M E R C U R Y.

**M**ERCURY is Mercury, says a certain author, torture it how you will. He was certainly right, however quaint the expression. The efficacy of this mineral is in proportion to its divisibility into its minima : whether this is performed by trituration, calcination, or by the mineral acids, is of no consequence. The turbith, precipitate per se, or sublimate in solution, will either of them answer every purpose that mercury is equal to. To make it exert its

its full powers, it must enter the system in almost the smallest conceivable quantities; in *this* differing from all other drugs. I knew an instance of a person who had taken two grains of the sublimate every day for four months, yet continued in the most deplorable state, whom I radically cured by half a quarter of a grain of the same medicine, taken twice a day in my solution. To join purgatives with mercury is indiscreet, or even to give mercurials in the evening, and a purge the next morning. I know no medicine that will cure a recent clap more certainly and more expeditiously than my solution of sublimate properly administered. I have known it often effect a perfect cure in a few days. The reason why mercurial unguents are generally so efficacious, is because a small portion of the mineral enters the absorbents, and is retained in the system: if a large quantity is received, the effect is dubious; if a ptyalism is raised, still more so. I have known persons remain uncured after going through five salivations. There certainly is not a more sovereign remedy than Mercury in all venereal, scrophulous and cancerous cases, nor any one that so much requires the direction of medical acumen. It is surprising

to me that a branch of business so peculiarly the province of a physician, should be so commonly entrusted in the hands of the surgeon. Infinite nicety and accuracy is often requisite in the treatment of this disorder, even when the same preparation is used : how ridiculous then must be the use of quack medicines, let them be ever so good, when their very efficacy may contribute to the destruction of the unhappy sufferer. I have seen many instances where the first and best surgeons in London have left the miasmata in the blood, after the patient was pronounced perfectly well. Mercury is undoubtedly equal to the performance of a radical cure of that loathsome disorder, in all its stages, but it requires the guidance of exquisite skill and extensive knowledge.

Various have been the opinions of its *modus operandi*, and all equally baseless. We smile at the Archæus of Helmont, yet, that Mercury acts by its momentum (a favorite doctrine in the last century) is surely as laughable. The fashionable conjecture, at present, is by corrugation ; which seems just as true as that it *grinds the blood down to water*. That mercurial applications will sometimes heal sores of all  
 sorts,



forts, is true, and sometimes exasperate, spread and increase them. To be ingenuous, it is a point we must confess our ignorance of. A medicine in the body has very different effects with a medicine in a similar situation, out of the body: the synthesis and analysis of nature, the various separations, combinations, and chymical processes, carried on in the human frame, and the variety of different substances in the stomach and bowels, the difference in the motion of the fluids, and of the excretions, and a diversity of other circumstances, preclude all possibility of certainty with respect to this desideratum in many drugs. It is sufficient, and ought to be satisfactory to human imbecillity, that we know such causes generally produce such effects; if they are not invariable, let us investigate the cause by frequent trials, and leave systems to divines, who will find as much absurdity to contend with in the defence of *any one*, as we can manifest in endeavouring to display the method in which medicines always operate.

## O P I U M.

**W**ERE I denied the use of Opium, said Sylvius le Boe, I would decline the practice of physic. We should indeed feel ourselves very often and much at a loss, were that the case. It is to be feared that the use of opiates is too much trifled with by causeless timidity. As mercury can scarcely be given in too small doses to procure the desired effect; on the contrary, the practitioner often misses his view by not administering opium in doses sufficiently large at first. Wherever pain exists, its use is indicated, were it only to gain a truce. In acute pains, where no inflammatory fever attends, it should not be given in less quantity than two grains and a half, or three grains: the consequent nausea and vertigo are of no manner of consequence. In spasmodic complaints and sphacelations, it may

may be ventured on in much larger quantities. It is undoubtedly the noblest gift of nature, who has kindly presented the human race with wheat and poppies in the same field. There is no anti-spasmodic comparable with it, and the ill consequences arising from its use are as trivial, as ease from pain is desirable, and a calm refreshing sleep welcome after torment. With what delirious extasy do such patients express their feelings and gratitude! Let us be careful not to *lose an opportunity* of conferring so much felicity on suffering humanity. I beg leave to add, that those who are habituated to the use of it are too apt to increase the dose gradually, and I believe unnecessarily; for if they confine themselves to no more than the same quantity which first eased them, it will answer their purpose, though they will not be every night equally free from pain, owing to a variety of circumstances. They will find the same casual effect even on augmenting the dose. It is more eligible, therefore, to make no addition.

ANTIMONY.



## A N T I M O N Y.

**T**HIS is a most useful and powerful medicine. Its effects are pretty well known, but *how* they are produced it is difficult to ascertain. We ought not, therefore, to be too sanguine in the support of any theory explicatory of so obscure a point. There are some things which occur in practice contradictory to the best formed theory. Is it not beyond measure strange, that many disorders should be removed by a single dose of emetic tartar, operating violently by vomiting and purging, and that the same disorders should yield as certainly, though more slowly, to a grain or two of the kermes mineral, without the least irritation of the stomach or bowels? The nititur conjecturis will be thrown in the teeth of every physician who *will* account for the modus operandi of some medicines. Antimonials, like opium, if gradually increased, may be given in incredible quantities.

quantities. I have often given above a hundred grains of emetic tartar, every day, for several weeks, and been obliged to add cathartics, it not having any sensible effect on the stomach or bowels.

The two above-mentioned are the best preparations of this mineral, in my opinion. The emetic tartar, when briskness of operation and expeditious effect is desirable; as in fevers, asthmas, &c. The kermes, as an alterative, in chronical diseases.

These strictures on medicines, it is to be hoped, will be of some utility; for we certainly cannot be too circumspect in our investigations, in observing the *usual* effects of whatever is given in a medicinal form, on the human frame. A careful and unremitted attention to the operations of nature has been the chief business of the author's life; and this Treatise contains the result of above thirty years extensive experience, of which he has communicated the whole, with as much perspicuity as he was master of, and as much studied brevity. A great deal of inferential reasoning is left for his reader, for without thinking, and strong thinking too, no man can prove an able physician: it is sufficient that he has offered

offered a clue to enable his reader to think *right*. Notwithstanding his partiality to formulae, he has always acknowledged, that no prescription will cure the same disorder in every person : if it succeeds with seven out of ten, it is as much as can be expected, and he thinks such expectations will not be found vain, from those he now submits to the public. Several gentlemen whom he had the honor to instruct, are now as eminent physicians as any on the face of the globe, and some of them have settled in each of the four quarters of it. They have all transmitted to him the most pleasing accounts of their success in the use of his *Praxis Medica*. A considerable number of intelligent apothecaries have given him the same information. To mitigate the sufferings and relieve the distresses of mankind is the only object he ever had in view, and no reflection affords him such exquisite satisfaction as that which arises from having promoted these desirable ends. Were some happier genius to produce formulae more safe, more certain, and more expeditious in their efficacy, it is with the utmost joy that he would see his own work sink into necessary and merited oblivion.

Several



Several editions of it, he is sorry to say, of his own publication, have abounded with faults; even some sheets which he has corrected have been worked off without those corrections having been made. Many editions have been published in Great-Britain and Ireland without his consent or knowledge, and some which he never saw. He was extremely desirous of seeing one correct edition, printed under his own eye, before he died, and such a one is *this* he now offers to the public (being the seventh). He confesses he has rendered it as perfect as is consistent with feeble humanity. Whatever errors remain, he must take to himself, for the printer has done him justice. He will never more make any alterations or additions to it, unless convicted of a mistake. It is a work that he has constantly attended to for these thirty years, and has received the decided approbation of all the literary journals in Europe that have noticed it. The latin edition, printed on the continent about twenty-five years ago, is now only to be found in private hands. Were *this* to be translated into that language, and published either in Holland or France, it would amply

Last Edition



repay the translator for his trouble. If the author has not been misinformed, it is lectured from by professors in more foreign universities than one.

The author cannot help observing, that he has known some of his brethren who have been exceeding vociferous in declaiming against his work ; who, in cases of difficulty and danger, have had recourse to the formulae in it, and proved successful. It is indeed a matter of the utmost indifference to him, whether persons speak well or ill of his work, or of himself : if he is wrong, God forbid that others should be misled. Were there any thing that he has wrote, by attention to which a practitioner might do mischief to one human being, he would heartily wish his book, and every copy of it destroyed. He thinks such an unhappy consequence cannot be the case with an intelligent person. As to those who do not chuse to give themselves the trouble of thinking, he hopes and desires they would never fatigue themselves with the perusal of his writings. If he has wrote any thing indefensible, he is the last person who would take up his pen to make any efforts towards exculpation

tion. Truth alone, confirmed by experience, can stand the test. To this only is his appeal. As to theory, he is convinced that there is no one so perfect that must not be departed from in practice. He who would pertinaciously adhere even to Dr. Cullen's, would find his expectations miserably disappointed.

My ruling passion, from childhood, has been a tender affection for my fellow-creatures, and consequential avidity to serve them to the utmost of my power. I know no pleasure equal to that which arises from mitigating the sufferings and relieving the distresses of others. To *give* happiness is to enjoy it in the most elevated and refined manner. With this view is my treatise presented to the world, and no caution has been omitted that might preclude any even the slightest injury to be effected by attention to its contents. May the Art of Healing be still more diligently cultivated, more rapidly increased, and more universally disseminated.

In this enlightened age of philosophy and experiment, let every experimentalist be peculiarly circumspect in his deductions,



ductions, and let each of us constantly bear in mind, that the chief end of our existence is to promote the benefit of mankind.

Vale lector amice & laboribus meis frueri.

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*Acres circumfert centum licet Argus ocellos,*

*Non tamen errantes cernat ubique typos.*

E R R A T A.

Page 20, l. 18, for *anhelus*, read *anbelous*. P. 95, l. 5, for *potion* r. *Lotion*. P. 117, l. 12, after *emetics*, add *antispasmodics*. P. 169, l. 11, r. *pinguedinous*. P. 206, l. 16, for *foa* r. *for*. P. 210, l. 6, for *spumos* r. *spumous*. P. 267, l. 7, in *Spirits*, dele *s*. P. 281, l. 7, add, *Weakness of the Solids*. P. 310, l. 3, add, *of guaiacum*.

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